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Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XIX, Issue No. 199

THURSDAY AUGUST 20, 2009

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OPINION METER

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PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS PHASE 6

As of August 19, 2009

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is
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For more information about the H1N1 flu,
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www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public
Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE



Kim Dae-jung, 85

South Korea lost its fervent champi-
on of peace and democracy, former
President Kim Dae-jung.

ASIA...Page 16



President Spears

What would a President Spears
administration be like? Apparently,
very tasty.

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Legislature fixes leaking roof for \$25,000. **PAGE 2**
70 Echo Company soldiers coming home tomorrow. **PAGE 7**

3 nabbed for biggest 'ice' haul



NEW PIPES

Hawaiian Rock Products workers fix the water pump as they work on replacing the old metal pipes of Hanson Micronesia Cement, which are 15 to over 20 years old. The excavation has resulted in the closure of portions of the road near the Saipan seaport in Lower Base. **See story on Page 2.**

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

**More than a kilo of 'ice' worth
\$510,000 seized from 3 Chinese**

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Federal lawmen and local police arrested early this week three suspected suppliers of methamphetamine or "ice," who were caught with over a kilo of "ice" valued at \$510,000—the biggest drug haul in the CNMI so far.

See ICE on Page 4

Some lawmakers exceed their discretionary fund allowances

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**
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REPORTER

Less than half or 14 of the CNMI's 29 lawmakers spent less while the rest may have exceeded their quarterly discretionary fund allotments by up to almost \$7,000.

Between January and March, the total discretionary fund allotted each lawmaker was \$26,217 or

\$8,739 each month.

Department of Finance data obtained yesterday shows 10 House members who were able to spend within the allotted \$26,217 or less, including Rep. Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan), Rep. Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan), Floor Leader Joseph Camacho (R-Saipan), Rep. Edward T. Salas (R-Saipan), Rep. Francisco

See LAWMAKERS on Page 4

Govt cuts financial aid to EAP scholars

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The CNMI Scholarship Office has reduced the financial assistance it provides to recipients of the Educational Assistance Program from last school year's \$3,960 to this year's \$3,600, which is 9 percent lower.

Scholarship Office administrator Merissa Seman-Rasa confirmed

yesterday that starting Fall semester, each EAP scholar who applies for college here or abroad will be awarded just \$1,880 per semester.

Seman-Rasa said the limited budget for scholarship programs is the sole reason for the small cut in the award.

Saipan Tribune learned that in FY 2009, the government appropriated \$3 million to the Scholarship Office for its

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RELATED NEWS

Scholarship Office stops part-time assistance program.

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Local



Laborers of contractor Yuman Construction work on fixing the roof of the legislative building on Capital Hill yesterday.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Legislature fixes leaking roof for \$25,000

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Buckets littered lawmakers' offices and hallways of the legislative building on Capital Hill yesterday to collect rainwater.

An ongoing repair of the legislative building's leaking roofs involved the dismantling of the roof, exposing the offices and hallways to rainwater especially during a downpour yesterday.

The roof repair started on Saturday but due to the rain, water entered through the roofs and on to the carpeted rooms, documents and furniture of some lawmakers at the Jesus P.

Mafnas Memorial Building on Capital Hill.

Legislative Bureau director Glenna SP-Reyes, in an interview, said the roof repair has been long overdue.

"Since I've been in the Legislative Bureau in 2006, this is the first major roof repair we have. There were some repairs before, but they're just minor," Reyes said, referring to the leaking speaker's conference room that was fixed earlier.

She said the offices of Reps. Ray N. Yumul (R-Saipan) and Ed Salas (R-Saipan) have also been leaking.

Reyes said the roof repair project costs \$25,000, and is being done by contractor Yuman Construction.

Besides the roof repair, the legislative building also got three new glass doors installed by contractor Tae Woo Corp. They are located on the two hallways separating the

House and the Senate, and the hallway leading to the Legislative Bureau.

Reyes said a contractor recommended the installation of the glass doors to limit the air leak in air-conditioned portions of the building, thereby promoting energy efficiency and savings in power bills.

"The air conditioning units are working extra harder because of the air leaks. The glass doors will keep the rooms and hallways cool," she added.

The retrofitting of lights and air conditioners at the legislative building are also among the energy efficiency projects set to begin this month using American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding grants.

The original building housing the Legislature was built during the Trust Territory days. Over the years, it has undergone expansions to accommodate lawmakers.

CNMI's lone cement factory replaces old pipes

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Portions of a road near the Saipan seaport in Lower Base are closed to traffic due to excavations involving the replacement of old pipes owned by Hanson Micronesia Cement.

Hanson, the only cement factory in the CNMI, currently has 2,500 tons of cement in it.

Jun Agda, supervisor at Hanson Micronesia Cement, yesterday said the road closures may continue for a few more days, depending on the amount of work needed to replace the metal pipes, which he said are 15 to

over 20 years old.

Hawaiian Rock Products, one of the contractors, began the excavation and pipe laying on Tuesday.

Fleet Marine, meanwhile, is the one doing the welding of the pipes, said the company's welder Roy Manalo. Each pipe is 10 inches in diameter and 40 ft. long.

As of yesterday, two 40-ft. long pipes were needed to replace the old ones.

There were incidents in the past when Hanson's pipes exploded, shooting cement into the air and the ground—blamed on old, leaking pipes.

Commonwealth Zoning Board NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Date: August 25, 2009, Tuesday

Time: 6:00pm

Place: Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe

The Zoning Board will hold a public meeting to introduce the proposed Beach Road Corridor Improvement Plan. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Comments may be submitted orally or in writing at the meeting. Written comments may also be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office no later than 4:30 pm, August 26, 2009, or they may be submitted via e-mail to staff@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or delivered to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

For more information, please contact Victor Barrett, Zoning Administrator, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Division 3 of Title 10 CMC).

/s/ Henry S. Hofschneider, Chairman.

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'Stock conversion will cure CUC's \$177M debt with CDA'

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

At the close of Fiscal Year 2008, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. owed the Commonwealth Development Authority approximately \$61 million in principal and an accelerated interest of \$116 million, resulting in a total obligation in excess of \$177 million, according to CUC consultant Georgetown Consulting Group.

A petition filed by CUC to approve a stock conversion of \$45 million is now with the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission.

Georgetown indicated that the reduction in the principal amount from the current \$61 million to \$45 million is an effective \$16 million waiver of previous outstanding loans for sewer and water projects.

"CUC's current default status is a major financial event and, until cured, prevents CUC access to traditional short- and long-term credit markets. The proposed preferred stock conversion is advantageous and in time will allow CUC access to traditional tax-exempt security markets," the report stated.

Saipan Tribune learned that the agreement contains favorable annual dividends, quarterly payment provisions, and the deferral of the first three years of dividends, subject to the interest-free amortization of the deferred dividends over a 15-year term.

Georgetown Consulting Group said the three-year dividend deferral period is designed to allow CUC ample time for fiscal recovery because CUC will make no dividend payments to CDA, while only \$270,000 would be due from Year 4 through Year 18 in quarterly dividends.

The petition also included two types of buyback provisions that will allow CUC to buy back in whole or in part any of the outstanding preferred stock, or what is classified as "standard buyback."

CUC schedules power outage this Sunday

As part of efforts to reinforce the power distribution system, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s Power Division will require a power interruption on Sunday, Aug. 23, 2009, from 8am through 8:45am.

This power interruption is essential to allow the contractor to safely perform the final repairs to the damaged underground high voltage cable in Garapan. The area to be affected will be the entire Feeder 2 circuit, which includes portions of Lower Base, CPA (seaport), Hotel Street, Beach Road Garapan south to the San Jose intersection. (PR-CUC)

CUC: Only residential water, wastewater customers recommended for discount

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp., through the Georgetown Consulting Group, recommends that only residential customers for both water and wastewater should get a discount on their consumption, according to a request they filed with the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission on Aug. 8.

CUC said the rate increase approved on June 5 covers just 30 percent of the anticipated wastewater revenue deficiency while the recommended increase starting on Sept. 4 would cover an additional 30 percent of the anticipated wastewater

revenue deficiency.

The remaining 40 percent of revenue deficiency shall be examined by the commission during the first quarter of 2010 to determine what combination of rate relief and revenue enhancement activities would be reasonable and necessary to offset the deficiency.

Georgetown earlier recommended the establishment of an interim lifeline rate for water and wastewater services to assist low-income customers.

"Lifeline rates would apply only to residential customers for both water and wastewater. The recent rate increases for both were based on getting the rates to 60 percent of the cost for the services. The remain-

ing 40 percent deficiency in the cost of service is scheduled to be heard before the [commission] sometime in the first quarter of FY 2010," Georgetown said.

The CUC consultant said the interim period would give the commission enough time to examine the opportunity for revenue enhancement activities to cover the remaining 40 percent revenue deficit.

These revenue enhancement activities include revenue cycle improvements, accounts receivable collection, unmetered and unbilled services.

"Current rates are 40 percent below cost for both water and wastewater. This situation already therefore represents a sig-

nificant discount to cost-based rates and has been implemented in part to avoid rate shock," Georgetown's report states.

Georgetown said that in Guam, the lifeline rate for residential water customers is \$2.74 per gallon for the first 5,000 gallons and \$5.03 per gallon for the remaining usage.

This amounts to a discount for the first 5,000 gallons of approximately 45 percent, or about the same discount that current water and wastewater customers are receiving on Saipan.

In addition, the consultant said that Saipan has an inverted rate structure for both water and wastewater rates that provide significant discounts for the initial block of usage.

between CDA and CUC. We are of the opinion that the agreement is fair and equitable to CUC and beneficial to CUC ratepayers," Georgetown's report states. It asked the commission to approve the agreement and proposed preferred stock certificate.

"We find the agreement to be consistent with the earlier memorandums of agreement

Based on the CUC's latest consolidated financial statement, as reported by Georgetown, the utility agency is—for all practical purposes—"insolvent," with liabilities that exceed assets in excess of \$70 million.

Georgetown said this deficiency is principally related to CUC's default of the repayment terms associated with prior loans made by CDA to CUC.

It said after many years of uncertainty, the potential resolution of the problem is at hand.

The current petition, it added, presents an agreement between parties wherein they agree to a preferred stock transaction and is authorized by law.


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AUGUST 22, 2009 - GARAPAN, SAIPAN

Road closure for the Car Show this Sat., Aug. 22 from 2pm - 12midnight, from BOG intersection to Dollar Days Store, Beach Road, Garapan. Power 99 apologizes for the inconvenience but the road closure is necessary to ensure the safety of all that will be attending the event. Power 99 thanks the CNMI for their understanding and hopes to see everyone at the Car Show.

Guam-CNMI ferry service, permanent feds' presence on Rota and Tinian pushed anew

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Sen. Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota) has pushed anew the idea of establishing regular ferry service between Guam and the CNMI with the impending military buildup, as well as the permanent presence of U.S. Customs and Border Patrol personnel on Rota and Tinian in light of federalization.

The senator said tying the islands' economies through reliable ferry service could be mutually beneficial to both territories.

Manglona was among those who submitted written concerns to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan during his



Manglona

first town hall meeting on Rota Thursday night.

"A feasibility study must be conducted before we can take this idea to the U.S. Congress. I will continue to work with our local leaders on gathering data for a comprehensive study and hope that you may be able to work on garnering support for this project in Congress," Manglona told Sablan.

He also asked Sablan to work with his colleagues in the U.S. Congress to include Chinese and Russian tourists in the joint Guam-CNMI visa waiver program.

"As we continue to work in bringing in charter flights from Japan and Korea to Rota, we must keep open

other existing markets in Russia and China," he said.

Economic disaster

The Rota senator said failure to permanently station U.S. immigration and Customs and Border Protection personnel on Rota and Tinian "could spell economic disaster to our island and its people."

"Without such a presence, visitors to our islands may be unduly burdened and delayed and we run the very real risk of losing direct international flights into Rota," he said.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority has expressed concerns over the lack of local funding for needed infrastructure but Manglona said by working with Sablan's office and the relevant federal agencies, Rota and

Tinian could see permanent presence of federal immigration and customs personnel on these islands.

Manglona also lauded Sablan for introducing H.R. 3397 or the Northern Mariana Islands College Access Act of 2009, which would grant financial assistance to CNMI high school graduates in the form of in-state tuition at any public college or university in the United States.

'Put monument on Rota'

Manglona, in his two-page letter, asked that Rota be considered as the site for the proposed Marianas Trench Marine National Monument Visitors Center.

He said Rota has worked hard to build and brand itself as an eco-tourism destination and it would therefore fitting to put the visitor center on the island.

Manglona said Rota's proximity to Guam would also allow Guam residents and visitors quick and easy access to the center.

"Moreover, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is presently working on a Habitat Conservation Plan to address the needs of the many endangered species on Rota. Perhaps, a Marine National Monument Visitor Center on Rota could help mitigate the impact the Conservation Plan will have on our island," Manglona added.

GOVT

From Page 1

programs and operation.

Of that amount, Seman-Rasa said, only \$10,000 is being spent for operation and personnel. The rest goes to the scholarship grants.

Another reason for the grant reduction is the large jump in the number of applicants this year, she said.

So far, the office has already received a total of 980 applications for EAP scholarship this year. However, only up to 800 scholars will probably be accommodated, Seman-Rasa said.

"We noted an increase on applications and we need to make sure that we are able to accommodate who are eligible for the program," she said.

EAP applicants have until Sept. 30 to submit their supporting documents and

other requirements.

Last school year, the office increased its EAP award from \$1,575 to \$1,980 per semester as a result of "savings" from other scholarship programs, Seman-Rasa said.

With the declining revenues and economy, she said the board is trying to maximize the funds available to prevent a bigger cut in the grant awards.

The CNMI Scholarship Office offers three scholarship programs for both on-island and off-island students. These include the honor scholarship, which provides up to \$15,000 yearly to qualified applicants and currently has 45-50 beneficiaries abroad.

The teacher scholarship program, meantime, provides up to \$12,000 yearly per student. The third is the educational assistance grant, EAP, which had over a thousand beneficiaries in previous years.

James Santos also appeals orders to numerous motions

Former Commerce Secretary James A. Santos yesterday informed the federal court that he is also appealing the court's orders with respect to their numerous motions.

Victorino Torres, lawyer for Santos, filed an amended notice of appeal in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Torres stated in the amended notice that in addition to the final judgment in the case, Santos is also appealing Judge

Alex Munson's orders to various motions that he filed in court.

Santos's wife, Joaquina, was the first one to notify the court that she will also appeal Munson's orders to their various motions.

Former lieutenant governor Timothy Villagomez only appealed his conviction and the sentencing order.

Last Aug. 5 Munson the Santoses to six years and six months in prison each

for their involvement in the scheme to defraud the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and the United States.

Munson sentenced Villagomez to seven years and three months in prison for his role in the Rydlyme corruption scandal. The defendants are currently free while a federal prison facility where they will serve their sentences is still being designated. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

LAWMAKERS

From Page 1

Dela Cruz (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Edwin Aldan (Cov-Tinian), Rep. Oscar M. Babauta (Cov-Saipan), Rep. David Apatang, and Rep. Stanley Torres (R-Saipan), and Speaker Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan).

In the Senate, those who were able to live within their allotted quarterly discretionary fund were Sen. Luis Crisostimo (D-Saipan), Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), Sen. Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota) and Sen. Joseph Mendiola (Cov-Tinian).

Some lawmakers transferred some of their discretionary funds to a few of their colleagues to cover for budget shortfalls, among other reasons.

The discretionary fund is separate from the salaries of each member of the Senate and the House of Representatives, pegged at \$39,300 a year. The Senate has nine members, while the House has 20.

It is also separate from the leadership account that the Senate president and the House speaker could distribute to committee chairs and other members.

On Jan. 7, for example, Speaker Palacios transferred \$1,200 from his

discretionary fund to that of Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider (R-Saipan).

Five days later, Sen. Hofschneider transferred \$1,000 to the account of Senate President Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan).

Rep. Ralph DLG. Torres (R-Saipan) transferred \$278 in discretionary funds to Rep. Joe Reyes (R-Saipan).

Rep. Stanley T. Torres also transferred \$2,100 to the discretionary fund of Hofschneider, who also transferred \$167 to the account of Vice Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan).

When asked for comment, Torres said it is not unusual for lawmakers to help each other.

On Jan. 20, \$375 was transferred from the discretionary fund of Benavente (R-Saipan) to Reyes.

Benavente also separately transferred \$436.30 and \$250 to the account of Deleon Guerrero.

Salas (R-Saipan) also transferred \$500 to Rep. Raymond D. Palacios.

When asked for interview, Salas declined to identify the lawmaker whom he transferred discretionary funds to, but Finance data shows Palacios as the recipient.

"I'm just trying to help others," Salas told *Saipan Tribune*.

On March 4, Speaker Palacios again transferred \$1,200 to his running mate

Hofschneider.

Advanced allotments

At least five senators and House members also made advanced allotments of their monthly discretionary fund in the first three months of the calendar year.

Among the senators who took out advances on their allotments were Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), Sen. Joseph M. Mendiola (Cov-Tinian), Sen. Henry H. San Nicolas (Cov-Tinian), Senate Vice President Felix Mendiola (Cov-Rota)

In the House, only Rep. Edwin P. Aldan (Cov-Tinian) made advanced allotments between January and March.

ICE

From Page 1

A total of 947 grams of "ice" worth \$473,000 was reportedly seized from two suspects during a buy-bust operation inside a room in a hotel. For the entire operation, a total of 1,021.4 grams of "ice" was seized.

Biao Huang and Sheng Lian, both male, were charged with one count of conspiracy to distribute a controlled substance and three counts each of possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance.

Chun Mei Lin, a female, is charged with two counts of possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance.

The three suspects, all Chinese, were taken to the U.S. District Court late Tuesday afternoon for a bail hearing. Designated judge David Wiseman imposed no bail and set the preliminary hearing for Aug. 24.

In his declaration filed in court, Drug Enforcement Administration special agent Daniel G. Holcomb stated that Huang and Lian were arrested shortly

after they handed over 947 grams of "ice" to two undercover Federal Bureau of Investigation agents and a DEA confidential source inside a hotel room in Susupe late Monday afternoon.

Holcomb said that Lin managed to elude a DEA raid at her barracks but was later arrested by local Immigration officers at the Saipan airport Tuesday afternoon as she was about to leave for China.

The DEA agent described a series of "ice" transactions conducted between the suspects and the DEA confidential source beginning Oct. 23, 2008 up through Aug. 17, 2009.

According to Holcomb, DEA laboratory testing showed varying purities for the drug, from 9.7 grams to 4.8 grams.

Since a May 20 purchase, Holcomb said, Lian and Huang have been meeting regularly with the "confidential source" for the purchase of one half to a kilo of "ice."

At the direction of the DEA and FBI, the confidential source was able to convince Lian and Huang to meet with the confidential source's "boss," an undercover FBI agent.

On Aug. 15, 2009, Lian and the un-

dercover FBI agent and the "confidential source" met inside a karaoke bar in Chalan Kanoa.

In that meeting, Lian described an extensive "ice" trafficking operation being directed by him and Huang with sources of supply in China. Lian allegedly bragged that he and Huang could sell several grams of "ice" for \$200,000 per kilogram.

Lian stated that they are capable of delivering up to 60 kilograms of "ice" to the CNMI, American Samoa, or Hawaii.

In that meeting, it was agreed that Lian and Huang would meet in one or two days to deliver 900 grams of "ice" to the undercover FBI agent.

In the afternoon of Aug. 17, 2009, Monday, Lian and Huang met with the confidential source and the undercover FBI agent in a restaurant in San Antonio where the defendants claimed that the 900 grams were ready for delivery that afternoon.

It was agreed that the group would meet again at a hotel in Susupe for the transaction.

The undercover FBI agent brought along another undercover FBI agent to the hotel. Lian left the hotel and later

returned, carrying two large plastic bags containing "ice."

Inside one of the hotel's rooms, the defendants handed over the bags of "ice" to the undercover agents. That's when members of a surveillance team in the adjoining room entered the room and arrested Lian and Huang.

A field test showed that the 947.6 grams of "ice" hidden in a diaper was positive for "ice."

Lian and Huang were taken to the U.S. Marshal's Office as DEA and FBI agents searched the defendants' barracks in Dandan. Two digital scales and dozens of small zip lock bags were seized.

In Lin's case, the confidential source was able to purchase 15 grams of "ice" worth \$6,000 from Lin at a parking lot of a store in Chalan Kanoa on Aug. 29, 2008.

At the direction of the DEA, members of the Department of Public Safety's Traffic Unit conducted a traffic stop of Lin, who was with a man.

Lin did not produce an ID, but identified herself. The officer released Lin with a verbal warning.

On July 28, 2009, the confidential

source contacted the FBI and DEA because Lin allegedly gave him/her 40 grams of "ice."

The 40 grams worth between \$8,000 to \$20,000 apparently were only a free sample because Lin heard that the confidential source was contacting other Chinese "ice" traffickers. An analysis of the 46 grams is still pending, according to DEA.

The confidential source negotiated to purchase 1.5 kilograms of "ice" from Lin on Aug. 17, 2009. Lin told the "confidential source" that she would call to deliver only 600 grams that afternoon.

Later that afternoon, DEA and FBI agents arrested Lian and Huang for trying to sell over 900 grams of "ice."

Lin later told the confidential source that she did not have the 600 grams ready to be delivered.

DEA, FBI, US Coast Guard and U.S. Marshals served the search warrant at Lin's house, but the defendant was no longer there.

The next day, the DEA received a call from a CNMI Immigration officer that Lin had been detained at the airport as she was about to leave Saipan.

Mayor's office flooded with stray dog complaints

By **NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.**
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REPORTER

The Saipan Mayor's Office is being flooded with complaints due to stray dogs but the lack of funding for an animal shelter project complicates matters as it tries to address the problem.

Tony Benavente, Mayor Juan B. Tudela's public information officer, said that most of the complaints come from tourists.

A site for the animal shelter project and dog tags are now ready. The Legislature had already appropriated a total of \$75,000 for the animal shelter project. But the mayor's office needs more funds to move the project forward.

"We still need between \$75,000 to \$100,000. We can-

not go ahead unless we have the funding," Benavente said.

He said they don't have any protective equipment for the staff that will man the shelter.

Stray dogs on the islands have become such a big issue that one of the candidates for mayor of Saipan in this November's election, Angelo Villagomez, has identified it as one of his priorities if elected to office.



Villagomez

Villagomez, who is one of the founders of Beautify CNMI, explained in his personal blog (<http://jetapplicant.blogspot.com>) that the dog issue has two parts.

"There are stray dogs and then there are dead dogs. The dead dogs were hit by cars and rot on the streets until nature deteriorates the remains. Stray dogs travel the villages in packs,

chasing children, bicyclists, ripping open garbage bags and serving as a general nuisance. Most people are concerned mainly with the dead dogs, but many have issues with the stray dog problems as well," Villagomez said.

He said the government is doing nothing to alleviate either of these two problems.

The mayor, he said, is responsible for cleaning up stray dogs and DPS is responsible for cleaning up dead dogs if

they lie within the right of way of public roads.

"If the mayor is doing his job and picking up stray dogs, there wouldn't be such a large dead dog problem, as the roving packs of dogs would be safely off the

streets," Villagomez said.

He said the mayor of Tinian was able to build a kennel for less than \$10,000 and has pretty much taken care of the stray dog and dead dog problems.

"We could follow his model here on Saipan, and it wouldn't have to cost the \$120,000 minimum that Mayor Tudela is asking for," he said.

CDC updates recommendations vs wine flu

By **NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.**
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REPORTER

As part of preventive measures against swine flu, a new recommendation from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention states that individuals who experience flu-like symptoms must stay home for at least 24 hours after the fever is gone.

Except to get medical care or

for other necessities, "your fever should be gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine."

CDC said that this new recommendation excludes people who work in health care settings.

For health care workers, previous recommendations from the CDC still stands: They must stay home for seven days after their symptoms begin or until

they have been symptom-free for 24 hours, whichever is longer, to prevent the spread of the virus.

As of Aug. 6, the World Health Organization reported 177,457 cases of H1N1, including 1,462 deaths.

The number of hospitalized cases in the U.S. has reached 7,511, with 477 deaths reported by the CDC.

The CNMI has a total of six confirmed cases but with no hospitalizations. The Department of Public Health said the patients have fully recovered from the swine flu virus.

DPH also declared that there is a community transmission of the illness in the CNMI and that other cases are quite likely occurring in the community.

H1N1 Guidances are available at <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/guidance/>.

Tropical Storm Vamco upgraded to typhoon

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Tropical Storm Vamco 11W was upgraded to typhoon status yesterday as it continued to intensify, racing northwest.

The National Weather Service defines a typhoon as an intense tropical weather system with a well defined circulation and maximum sustained winds of 74 miles per hour or higher.

According to the CNMI Emergency Management Office and the National Weather Service, the center of Typhoon Vamco 11W as of 1pm yesterday was 790 miles east-northeast of Saipan.

No watches or warnings are currently in effect for the CNMI.

With maximum sustained winds of 75 mph, Typhoon Vamco 11W was slowly moving north yesterday at 3 mph and is expected to intensify during the next 24 hours.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial issued yesterday another reminder to the public, including those on the northern islands of Agrihan, Alamagan, and Pagan, to closely follow the progress of Typhoon Vamco 11W through the EMO and local media sources.

Fitial said NWS and EMO will continue monitoring the movement of the typhoon and will be issuing updates.

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on August 20th, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before August 20th.

THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE*.

* You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than August 20th. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

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Life in Motion

Scholarship Office stops part-time assistance program

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The NMI Scholarship Office will stop offering its part-time scholarship program at the Northern Marianas College effective this Fall semester due to budget constraints and the program's low participation in the Spring semester.

Scholarship administrator Merissa Seman-Rasa confirmed this with Saipan Tribune yesterday, saying the office is prioritizing its undergraduate scholarship programs, which include

the honors and educational assistance program scholars.

"We only have enough funding for undergraduate full-time scholars and that's our priority at this time," she said.

The office offered the part-time educational assistance in Spring 2009 for government and private employees who wanted to continue their college education at NMC.

They were provided a one-time funding of \$800 as assistance from the CNMI government.

However, Seman-Rasa said the

turnout appeared unsatisfactory as only a few applied and took advantage of the opportunity.

The office expected around 300 applicants for the program last semester. Only 63 applied and less than 20 were deemed eligible.

Seman-Rasa said the money for this program was sourced from the honor scholarship program.

"Some of our honor students last year are no longer receiving the benefit and that's what we used in our part-time scholar-

ship. Besides, the office has always a security blanket that we use to start the upcoming year. We can call it extra funding," she explained.

Saipan Tribune learned that

Last semester, the office spent only about \$16,000 for the part-time scholars.

The scholarship board had decided to offer the part-time scholarship program to help individuals on island who want to obtain their degree while working full time. Some \$250,000 from the local schol-

arship trust fund was identified for this program.

Under the scholarship rules, a part-time student needs between six to 11 credits, while full-time students are required to obtain 10 credits and above.

Seman-Rasa said the Scholarship Office allocated \$800 for each part-time student, while full-time students would get \$1,980 per semester.

She said scholarship applicants followed the same requirements as the educational assistance program rules and regulations.

The Scholarship Office believes that economic issues remain the top factor to explain the low turnout of applicants in Spring.

Seman-Rasa said there are applicants who later decide to become full-time students after considering the amount of the assistance—from \$800 for part-time students to \$1,980 for full-time ones.

The CNMI Scholarship Office offers three other scholarship programs: honor scholarship, teacher scholarship program, and educational assistance program.

Malite estate allowed to get help in collecting \$1.3M from Atalig, Yana

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delaTorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court has authorized the co-administrators of the Angel Malite estate to hire a law firm to help them collect the \$1.3 million judgment against detained lawyers Antonio Atalig

and Reynaldo Yana.

Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo granted the request of Malite estate co-administrators Jimmy Sablan and Esther Sound to retain the law office of F. Mathew Smith to assist them in collecting the monetary judgment against Atalig and Yana.

Sablan and Sound were authorized to pay Smith \$2,500 to cover the initial costs and expenses such as filing fees, the investigation of any encumbrances, publication, costs of appraisal (if any) and costs of advertising and sale.

"After the work is completed, a

final invoice for all fees and costs incurred shall be submitted to the court for final review and approval," the judge said in the order.

Atalig and Yana have been in jail since March 2008 after being found in civil contempt for failing to return the \$1.3 million in attorneys' fees the two re-

ceived from the Malite estate.

On Jan. 28, 2009 Govendo ordered their continued detention and denied them attorneys' fees. Instead, Govendo ruled that the two owe \$1.3 million to the Malite estate for failing to return the attorneys' fees they got.

Govendo said Atalig is to

be imprisoned until he returns \$500,000 in attorneys' fees. Yana is also to be jailed until he returns \$200,000 in attorneys' fees.

Govendo said Atalig and Yana shall then repay the remainder owed to the Malite estate until the full amount of \$1,288,500 has been repaid.

Crisostimo named to cockfight board

Saipan Mayor Juan B. Tudela recently appointed Ramon Palacios Crisostimo as a new member of the Saipan Cockfight Board.

This came after former congressman Pedro P. Castro decided not to renew after completing his one-year term in June.

Crisostimo, who is the brother of Sen. Luis P. Crisostimo, joins the two other board members: Juan M. Borja (chairman) and Manual C. Sablan.

Tony Benavente, public information officer for the Mayor's Office, said both Borja and Sablan have decided to renew their terms for another year.

"Mayor Tudela continues to work hand in hand with the board," Benavente added.

Tudela has been ill for the past week and only reported to office

once on Tuesday since arriving from an official trip in Japan.

Last week, Castro reportedly expressed that he shares the sentiments of cockfighters and breeders who are opposed to the entrance fee being enforced by the current management of the only licensed cockfight arena on Saipan.

Earlier this year, the Mayor's Office reported that one of the cockfight board members was seen participating in illegal cockfighting activities in December last year.

Tudela has not identified the board member since the report came out in January.

Neither Castro nor Crisostimo could be contacted for comment as of press time yesterday. (Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

for Pancy Inc.

The public is invited to provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this Conditional Use application #2009-1681, Tract No. 22778-R2

Date : August 27, 2009, Thursday

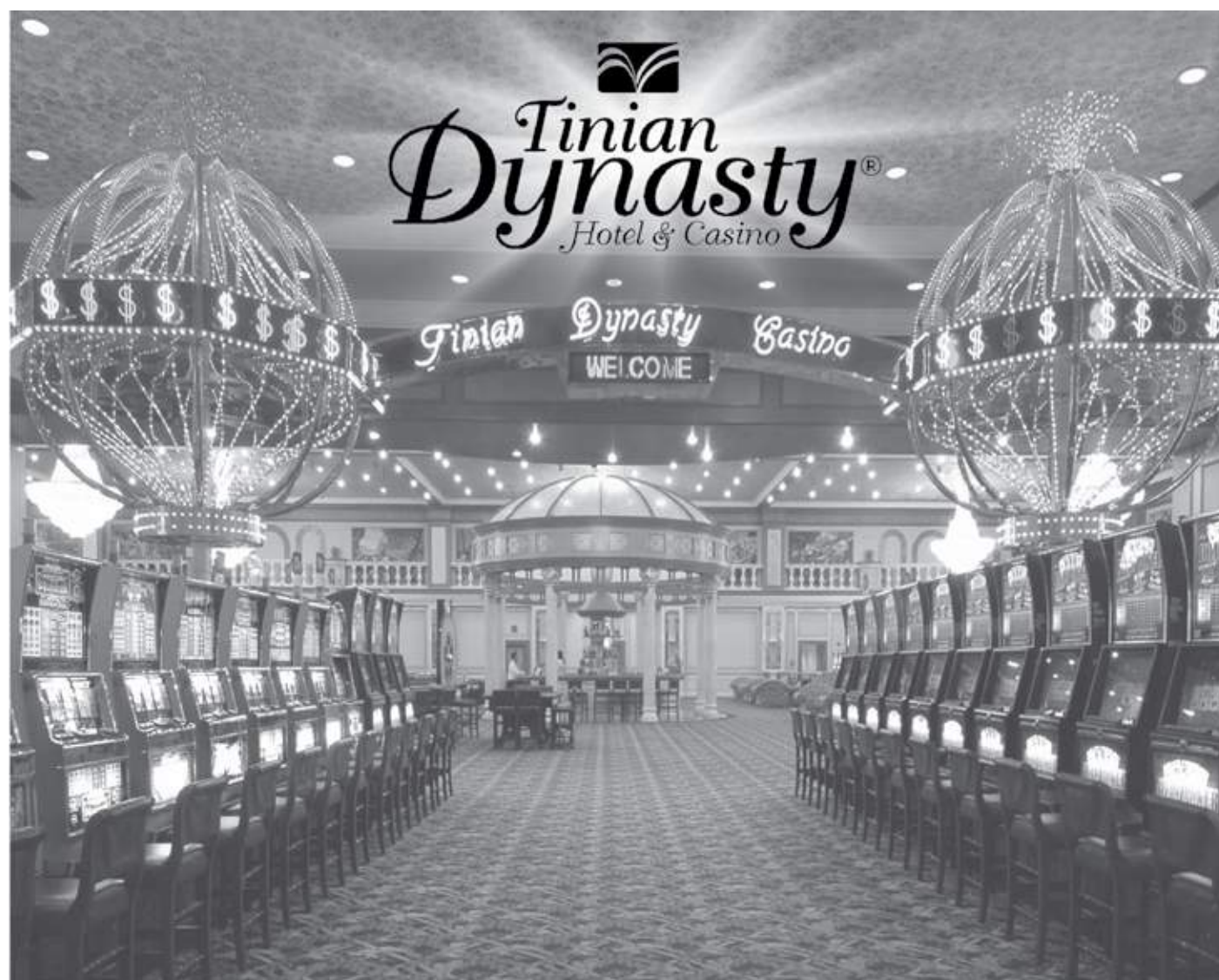
Time : 6:00 pm

Place : Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan.

Above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may also be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office no later than 4:30 pm, August 28, 2009. Written comments may be submitted via e-mail to staff@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or delivered to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact Victor Barrett, Zoning Administrator, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Division 3 of Title 10 CMC).

/s/ Henry S. Hofschneider, Chairman.



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70 Echo Company soldiers coming home tomorrow

The CNMI's 70-strong contingent with the Echo Company will be arriving tomorrow, Aug. 21, after a yearlong deployment in Kuwait.

The entire Echo Company, including those from American Samoa, Hawaii, Guam and the CNMI, were flown on Aug. 13 to their headquarters

in Fort Hood, Texas.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial will deliver a welcoming address during a heroes welcome being organized for the local contingent.

They are expected to touch down at the Saipan International Airport around 11pm on Aug. 21.

Office of Military and Veterans Affairs executive officer Ruth Coleman said this is part of a demobilization process for the troops.

They have just completed their assignment and will be going back to their home units.

The troops' spouses, children and family members are

also expected to join the welcoming party.

Coleman said the public is also invited to join.

Members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars will be organizing a roadside waving for the soldiers from the airport to Herman's Bakery.

The VFW is encouraging

the community to join them and welcome these heroes as they pass by Airport Road to their respective homes. The community is urged to line the Airport Road with yellow ribbons and banners and wave to the soldiers.

The troops were deployed to Kuwait in July 2008. This is their second deployment to the Middle East.

One of those who will be ar-

riving is Staff Sgt. Francisco Ada, who was here in May for a 12-day R&R along with Sgt. Royal Kelby.

Ada had said the troops were doing well in Kuwait and the area is considered a "green zone," which means it is out of the danger zone.

Their battalion provides convoy and logistics escort to U.S. troops. *(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)*



NOTICE OF APPLICATION

COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
2ND FLOOR, MORGAN BUILDING, SAIPAN MP, 96950
TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315
August 20, 2009



THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CRM OFFICES:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. SAIPAN SHIPPING CO. INC	08/06/09 SPI-2009-X-056	PARKING & DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT	PUERTO RICO	PORT& INDUSTRIAL APC	APPROVED (08/14/09)
2. REPUBLICAN PARTY	08/13/09 SSm-2009-X058	POLITICAL SIGNBOARD	ALONG ROADSIDES IN SAIPAN	SHORELINE APC	UNDER REVIEW*
3. AMBROSIO T. OGUMORO	08/17/09 SPIm-2009-X-059	DRYDOCK	ABLE DOCK LOWER BASE	PORT & INDUSTRIAL APC	APPROVED (08/18/09)
4. PACIFIC SUBSEA SAIPAN	08/18/09 SPIm-2009-X-060	DRYDOCK	SOUTH SEAPLANE RAMP, LOWER BASE	PORT & INDUSTRIAL APC	UNDER REVIEW*
5. PACIFIC SUBSEA SAIPAN	08/18/09 SPIm-2009-X-061	DRYDOCK	SOUTH SEAPLANE RAMP, LOWER BASE	PORT & INDUSTRIAL APC	UNDER REVIEW*
6. PACIFIC SUBSEA SAIPAN	08/18/09 SPIm-2009-X-062	DRYDOCK	SOUTH SEAPLANE RAMP, LOWER BASE	PORT & INDUSTRIAL APC	UNDER REVIEW*

Publication of the above list is in accordance with CRM Regulations, which require all permit applications to be published in a local newspaper within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the CRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the CRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APC's) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local CRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a CRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the CRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the CRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the CRM Regulations.

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Marianas Public Land Trust has scheduled a Board of Trustees Regular Meeting to be held on Friday, August 21, 2009 beginning at 9:00 AM at the MPLT Conference Room, Suite #107, Morgan Building, Saipan, MP.

The following agenda is hereby established:

- I PRELIMINARIES**
 - Call to Order
 - Roll Call
 - Adoption of Agenda
 - Adoption of Minutes
- II CONSULTANT'S REPORTS**
 - Legal Counsel Reports
 - o APLE 501
 - Investment Consultant Reports
 - o Performance Reports - July 2009
 - o Asset Allocation Study - Part 2
 - Loan Administrator Reports
 - o Status Updates
 - o Foreclosed Home Proposals
 - Board Consultant Reports
 - o Financial Statements - June 2009
 - o FY 2009 Budget Review
 - o FY 2010 Proposed Budget
- III OLD BUSINESS**
 - ETI Proposed Matters
 - Office Space Matters - Building Construction
 - Administrative Manual - Personnel Benefits
- IV NEW BUSINESS**
 - GF Distribution Issues
 - FY 2009-2010 Independent Auditor Review & Selection
 - APAFS 2009 PRIC/IFEBP Annual Employee Benefits Conference
- V EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At anytime during this scheduled meeting, the Board of Trustees may be required to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters deemed privileged and confidential.
- VI MISCELLANEOUS**
- VII ADJOURNMENT**

In accordance with Public Law 8-41, additional agenda items may be added to the above listing only by the recorded vote of the majority of the trustee governing body. All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written and oral testimony on the above agenda items.



Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI) is soliciting proposals for the financial and compliance audit for fiscal year ending September 30, 2009. NMPASI is the designated, federally funded protection and advocacy system for persons with disabilities in the CNMI. NMPASI uses a variety of individual and systems advocacy approaches to protect people's right, including legal and administrative remedies, legislative, policy change and trainings. Proposals for the financial and compliance audit shall be submitted to NMPASI, P.O. Box 503529, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than September 4, 2009. The audit shall be performed in compliance with the following guidelines:

1. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards;
2. OMB Circular A-133; and
3. Compliance with the General Requirements Applicable to Federal Financial Assistance Program

Award will be based on specific factors such as prior experience, technical competence, ability to meet the deadline and price in this order. The contract for this audit will be awarded no later than October 1, 2009. The audit work shall commence by December 1, 2009, and a final audit report shall be completed by February 28, 2010. A list of specific audit requirements and Agency's profile are available at NMPASI office, Gualo Rai. Any questions regarding this matter can be addressed to Mr. James Rayphand, Executive Director at Tel. No 235-7274/7273.



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands State Board of Education

Public School System

P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP 09-019

"A & E and Construction Management Services FOR PSS ARRA Projects"

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for **Architectural, Engineering and Construction Management Services for the CNMI Public School System for ARRA Projects**. The Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

All proposals shall be in a sealed envelope marked "RFP 09-019" containing one (1) original and five (5) copies and shall be submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than **September 01, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.** Any proposal after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted.

There will be a Pre-Bid Conference for interested proposers on Tuesday, August 25, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. at the PSS COE Conference on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building at Capitol Hill on the island of Saipan.

Technical questions shall be in writing and addressed to David Loan, CIP Coordinator, via fax # (670) 664-3715 or email to loand@pss.cnmi.mp.

/S/ **Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.**
Commissioner of Education

/S/ **Robert Florian**
Procurement & Supply Officer

'Convicted rapist can't withdraw guilty plea'

On Friday, Aug. 7, 2009, the Commonwealth Supreme Court issued three opinions for publication.

In *Commonwealth v. Harris I. Taivero*, 2009 MP 10, a citizen of New Zealand residing in the Commonwealth had been charged with rape in a previous case. Before the case went to trial, Taivero's attorney advised him to plead guilty in order to receive a lesser sentence. The attorney did not, however, inform the client that his admission to rape, a felony, would eventually result in his deportation.

After serving a three-year

sentence, Taivero later unsuccessfully attempted to withdraw his guilty plea in order to avoid deportation proceedings. He also sued his attorney for ineffective assistance of counsel for failing to inform him of all the consequences of his guilty plea.

Upon review, the Supreme Court held that Taivero's attorney was only required to inform him of the direct consequences of his plea, and that a change in Taivero's immigration status was a collateral, rather than a direct consequence. A collateral consequence is a penalty imposed on the defendant by a

government agency other than the court—immigration officials in this case. A direct consequence, on the other hand, is one that court itself imposes as a result of a criminal conviction. The Supreme Court also held that a criminal defendant could only withdraw his guilty plea if allowing it to remain effective would result in manifest (or extreme) injustice. This particular defendant's circumstances were not so unfair as to rise to that standard.

The second, *Marilyn V. and Lolaine M. Castro v. Ricardo C. Castro*, 2009 MP 8, involved a

disagreement between a landlord and his tenants. The plaintiff (the grieving party) had been residing rent-free in an apartment owned by her ex-father-in-law, later the defendant in the case. The ex-father-in-law wrote to the tenant requesting that she move out of his apartment within seven days. He was only required by law to provide three days notice.

Before the seven-day period had expired, the ex-daughter-in-law requested and received a temporary restraining order from the trial court prohibiting her ex-father in law, now the defendant, from evicting her. The trial judge granted the order under the authority of statute designed to protect individuals from domestic abuse. After a review hearing two days later, the trial court found that no abuse had occurred. However, the court allowed the plaintiff to remain in the defendant's apartment so that she could secure other housing.

The ex-father-in-law, the defendant, claimed that the court had wrongly taken his property by allowing the ex-daughter-in-law, the plaintiff, to stay in the apartment after he had asked her to leave. He claimed that his due process rights had been violated, and in the alternative, that the trial court had illegally taken his property under the eminent domain clause of the Commonwealth Constitution. After review, the Supreme Court found that the trial court did not have the authority to allow the plaintiff, the ex-daughter-in-law, to stay beyond the above-mentioned three-day grace period. Consequently, the Court reversed the trial court's decision and vacated the restraining order, as it unconstitutionally limited the defendant's property rights.

Third, in *re Estate of Santiago C. Tudela*, 2009 MP 9, a probate case called into question whether a surviving spouse who is not of Northern Marianas decent may inherit property left to her by her husband, who was Chamorro. Article XII, Section 1 of the Commonwealth Constitution states that only persons of Northern Marianas decent may own land. However, Section 2 of the same Article allows surviving spouses who would not otherwise be eligible to own land to inherit it if the marriage produced no children who would be legally eligible to own the land. Since the deceased and his wife never had children, the Supreme Court held that she was able to inherit the land in accordance with the Section 2 exemption. The decedent's niece also challenged the surviving spouse's ownership under several other provisions of the Commonwealth Probate Code, but did not succeed on any of the claims. (PR)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Aug. 20, 1999

Interior to probe on-job campaign

The Interior Department's inspector general and special counsel are being called in to investigate whether former key insular affairs officials linked to on-job campaign against House Republicans broke the law, the Washington Times reported Wednesday. The Times also disclosed that Allen P. Stayman, former director of OIA which oversees US territories, including the Northern Marianas, plotted to oust the CNMI's Democratic governor, Froilan Tenorio, during the 1997 campaign. Stayman, who now works at the State Department, is the latest ex-official of the agency to be linked to the on-job political campaign, which is now the subject of an investigation by the US House Resources Committee.

US should beef up forces in Marianas—Harkin

The United States will have to augment its forces in the Marianas to thwart attempts by nationals from mainland China to enter illegally into its territory in the region, according to Sen. Tom Harkin (D-Iowa). He also favored immediate repatriation of illegal Chinese immigrants in an effort to discourage others who may be lured into Guam by human smuggling syndicate operating in PROC. "We are going to have to beef up our efforts here both with the military and the Coast Guard and with the (Immigration and Naturalization Service) to help detain and move those people back to China as soon as possible," said the U.S. senator.

Aug. 20, 2001

New counting machines ensure accuracy

The CNMI Commission on Election is now equipped with a state-of-the-art tabulating machines that ensure almost 100 percent accuracy in the counting of votes. The new machines will be used in counting the votes cast in the November 3 elections. The newly-procured tabulation machines have the capability to read 300 ballots per minute and has one out of a million chance margin of error, Election Software and System Corporation official Jason Barnett said.

Monument for local war heroes proposed

A Memorial Court of Honor that would honor the 50 Chamorro and Carolinian members of the Marianas Marine Corps Scouts who bravely served the US Marines in 1994 may soon rise at the Camp Susupe Park. That is, if the US Secretary of Defense agrees to provide the funds for the construction of the memorial. This came about soon after Rep. William S. Torres filed a resolution at the House of Representatives asking the US Defense Secretary through the US Air Force Secretary to provide the money for the construction of the memorial in Susupe.

Aug. 20, 2002

DPS: Robbery is motive in Umeyama slay case

Investigation findings identified robbery as the motive behind the July 21, 2002, murder of tour coordinator Chiharu Umeyama, whose body was discovered in a remote area in Kagman III exactly 22 days after her death. Marianas Visitors Authority employee Alfred Aldan Cruz, the suspect charged in the Japanese national's murder, reportedly confessed to authorities that he stole money from Umeyama, Public Safety spokesperson Lt. Pete C. Muña said yesterday. The public information officer, however, could not immediately disclose the amount involved.

Bankruptcies seen if user's fee increase goes through

The president of Advance Textile Corp. disclosed that his company has filed for bankruptcy and that other garment manufacturers on island would be joining him in the Federal Bankruptcy Court if the Legislature pushes through with increasing the user's fee to 5 percent. Responding to Rep. Stanley T. Torres's question why his firm is still not bankrupt after claiming that his company has been losing money, Paul Zak replied that he is—his firm filed for Chapter 11 protection at the Federal Bankruptcy Court on March 11 this year. "[Torres] heard nothing at the [public hearing]. He does not understand that small companies cannot afford this tax increase at a time we are barely surviving. The reason I gave testimony is that I am already where more of my fellow companies will be in the next several months. As more companies file either for Chapter 11 or 7, the financial spiral goes downward," Zak said in an e-mail to KMCV, a copy of which was provided to Saipan Tribune.

Commonwealth Zoning Board

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to advise the public that the Zoning Office will be closed on August 21, 2009, Friday beginning at 2:00pm for a scheduled Public Auditor's Ethics workshop. Please call the Zoning Office at 234-9661 for further information. Thank you for your understanding.

BEFORE THE COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION'S [CUC] LEAC RATE AND OTHER ELECTRIC REGULATORY MATTERS

DOCKET 09-1

REVIEW OF CUC'S WATER AND WASTEWATER RATES

DOCKET 09-2

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT at 1:00 p.m. on August 31, 2009, the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission [CPUC] will conduct a public hearing and regulatory workshop at the Senate Chamber in the Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building on Capitol Hill to receive evidence, argument, discussion and public comment on the following CUC regulatory matters in Dockets 09-1 and 09-2 and on such other regulatory matters as may arise.

On December 19, 2008, CPUC established a leveled energy adjustment clause [LEAC] by which it would set and adjust a semi-annual rate to enable CUC to recover its fuel and related expenses. By order dated April 2, 2009 CPUC established a LEAC rate of \$.20147 cents per kWh for the period April 3, 2009 through September 30, 2009. CPUC ordered that CUC use specific portions of this LEAC revenue only to increase its fuel inventory and to fund a locked box reserve for CPUC authorized generation enhancement activities. In its April 2009 order, CPUC directed that its regulatory consultant [Georgetown] recommend a LEAC rate, which would be established for the period October 1, 2009 through March 30, 2010. On August 10, 2009, Georgetown submitted its report, which is available for public inspection on the Saipan Chamber of Commerce's website www.saipanchamber.com. In its report, Georgetown recommends that for the six month period commencing October 1, 2009, the current LEAC rate of \$.20147 cents per kWh be increased to \$.22618 cents per kWh [a 12% increase] to reflect projected increases in oil prices. However, in its report, Georgetown states that CUC has violated CPUC's orders, which required that about \$5.2 million dollars of LEAC revenues, which will have accrued during the period January through September 2009, be deposited into a restricted bank account and used only for CPUC approved generation enhancement purposes. No funds have been deposited into the restricted account and CUC has also failed to file required accounting reports with CPUC regarding the status and use of these restricted funds. Georgetown advises that if CUC were required to use a portion of this unaccounted for revenue [about \$2.9 million dollars] to offset the projected fuel increase, then no increase to the existing LEAC rate would be necessary. In its report, Georgetown also states that about 20% of the energy produced by CUC's power plants is unaccounted for and is not shown in energy sales to its customers. A normal utility level of unaccounted for energy is in the range of 7%. Accordingly, ratepayers are paying a 13% premium for this unaccounted for energy. Georgetown recommends that CPUC initiate an investigation into this problem. At the August 31, 2009 public hearing, CPUC will receive a briefing from Georgetown regarding its LEAC report and will also receive testimony regarding an appropriate regulatory response to CUC's violation of CPUC orders concerning CUC's use and accounting of restricted LEAC revenues.

By amended petition dated May 22, 2009, CUC requested that CPUC review and approve a proposed preferred stock agreement between CUC and the Commonwealth Development Authority [CDA] under which \$177 million dollars in CUC financial obligations to CDA would be converted into \$45 million dollars of preferred stock. By report dated July 27, 2009, Georgetown has recommended that CPUC approve the transaction. This report is available for public inspection at the Chamber website mentioned above. At the August 31, 2009 public hearing, CPUC will receive a briefing from Georgetown regarding its report and recommendation.

Within the process under which the Commonwealth has petitioned for energy grants under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, CPUC has been requested to examine whether different or additional financial incentives are necessary to encourage CUC's electric customers to use energy more efficiently without raising the cost of conservation and increasing the cost to ratepayers of measurable, verifiable efficiency savings. By public notice issued on July 17, 2009, CPUC invited public comment and further directed that Georgetown examine and report on this matter. At the August 31, 2009 public hearing, CPUC will consider public comments and Georgetown's report, which is due on August 14, 2009 and will be available for public inspection on the Chamber website mentioned above.

By order dated April 2, 2009 in Docket 09-2 CPUC directed Georgetown and CUC to propose interim lifeline water and wastewater rates for low income customers. Pursuant to this order, Georgetown conducted a review and issued a report on August 8, 2009, which is available for public inspection on the Chamber website mentioned above. In the report, Georgetown recommends that the current water and wastewater rates, which are still 40% below CUC's cost, should serve as a surrogate interim lifeline rate pending further regulatory proceedings, which will consider how to fund the 40% shortfall. At the August 31, 2009 public hearing, CPUC will receive a briefing from Georgetown on this subject as well as its recommendations regarding the scope and process for a CPUC investigation of CUC revenue enhancement activities, which could mitigate the revenue shortfall.

At the August 31, 2009 public hearing, CPUC will welcome the public's attendance and comments at the conclusion of the hearing. Persons who desire to formally participate in the hearing pursuant to 4 CMC § 8409(j) should on or before August 25, 2009 file with CPUC at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce offices at the Family Building, Garapan Street, Garapan an application and offer of proof in accordance with § 8409(j) and CPUC Procedural Rule 11(c). Subsequent to the public hearing, CPUC will conduct a special business meeting at 5:00 p.m. on September 3, 2009 at the Garapan office of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce to consider and make decisions regarding matters considered at the public hearing. Further information about the public hearing and the public's right to participate may be obtained from CPUC commissioner Kyle Calabrese at 670-233-7150.



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August 20, thru August 26, 2009

DEPARTMENT STORE



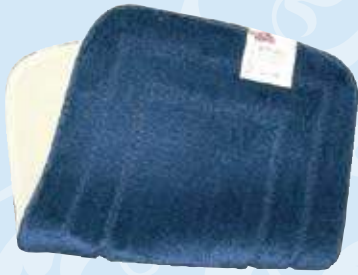
Sunset Rug
5'x8'

\$62⁹⁹



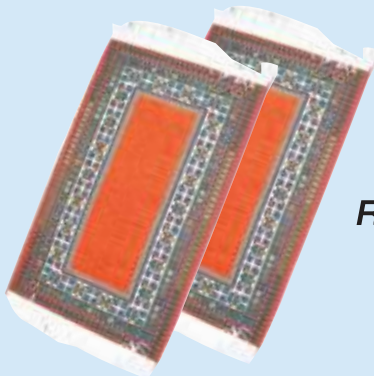
Jefferson Area Rug
3'x5'

\$21⁰⁰



Home Style Area Rug
24x40'

\$16⁹⁹



Egyptian Rug
\$6⁹⁹

Reversible Rug
18x34
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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XIX, Issue No. 199Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Health care rehab: A potential block to reform

Opponents of health-care reform argue that Congress would give illegal immigrants health insurance at taxpayer expense. The claim stirs a lot of resentment, particularly in border states struggling to cover the costs that undocumented immigrants impose on hospitals, schools and other public services. And although there may be valid reasons to improve the health-care services these immigrants receive, it's a step lawmakers can't take without jeopardizing the reform effort as a whole.

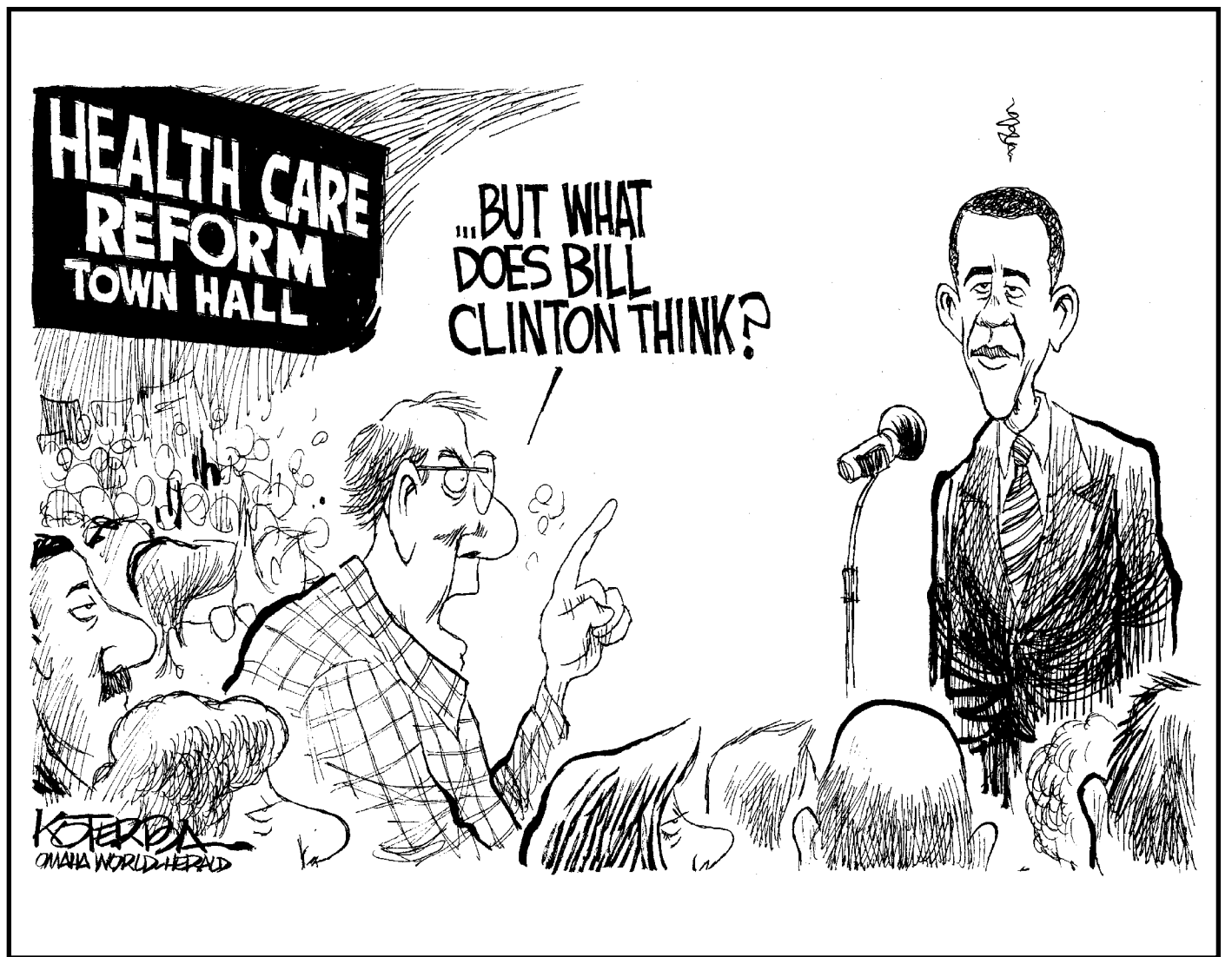
Authors of the House bill (HR 3200) recognize how explosive the issue is and have tried to defuse it. One section of the bill unequivocally declares that illegal immigrants cannot receive taxpayer funds to help buy coverage. Critics say the proposal doesn't provide a way to enforce the ban, so illegal immigrants are sure to find a way around it. Although that's not a compelling argument, the insurance-buying exchanges created by the bill aren't likely to be more resistant to fraud than Medicare and Medicaid are.

The more difficult issue is whether illegal immigrants should be eligible for subsidized insurance. Some immigrant activists contend that insuring them would improve public health and reduce costs. Like the uninsured generally, immigrants without coverage tend to forgo care until they need expensive emergency treatment. One of the main goals of health-care reform is to reduce this sort of inefficiency, which drives up private insurance premiums and the medical costs covered by local governments.

Although illegal immigrants are disproportionately uninsured, they account for an unusually small share of health-care costs. A recent study published by the American Journal of Public Health found that per-capita costs were significantly lower for immigrants—even those with insurance—than for native-born Americans. They're less likely to suffer from chronic illnesses such as diabetes and heart disease. And, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation, noncitizens are significantly less likely than citizens to go to an emergency room.

On the other hand, the prospect of subsidized health benefits would raise the incentive for illegal border crossings. That's one reason insurance coverage for illegal immigrants should be addressed in the context of comprehensive immigration reform, not an overhaul of the health-care system. Here's another reason: The health-care debate has already become so politicized, it's well-nigh impossible to have a rational discussion of the problems and solutions. The economic and public-health effects of extending coverage to noncitizens are worth exploring, but not at the expense of reforms that are vital to millions of Americans.

(c) 2009, Los Angeles Times



Mind over platter

Several years ago I attended a conference in San Diego, California and one memorable evening I went with some friends to an authentic Mexican restaurant. It had outdoor tables where a mariachi band would walk around to serenade the guests. I ordered the Mexican supreme platter, which had a little of everything on it. When the huge dish was placed in front of me, I thought I had died and gone to heaven.

Gorging on a delicious platter of food is a nice treat once in a while, but too many Americans have made a habit of eating large portions...and it shows. Those second and third helpings have helped 66 percent of Americans to have a Body Mass Index (BMI) of over 25.0, which indicates one is overweight. Twenty-six percent of U.S. citizens are considered obese, which is a BMI of 30.0 or higher, double the percentage from 1962 research statistics. It's interesting to note that Japan has defined obesity as a BMI greater than 25.0, while China uses 28.0.

About 3.8 million Americans weigh over 300 pounds and 400,000 carry over 400 pounds. What's even more alarming is that childhood obesity has more than tripled in the last two decades, so our future generation is going to have a heavy burden to carry.

One can be overweight and still be beautiful on the outside; however, carrying those extra pounds can wreak havoc on your health and wealth. Obese people spend an extra \$1,429 per year, or 42 percent more for medical care than normal weight people according to a 2006 research. Obesity caused an 89-percent increase in spending between 1998 and 2006 on treatments for obesity-related diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, and arthritis. It also accounts for nearly 10 percent of all U.S. medical spending, or about \$147 billion a year.

Even though we are suffering through a recession, the weight loss industry is estimated at over \$50 billion and growing. People are spending more money on lotions, potions and pills. They join gyms and go on multiple diets to try to look and feel better. The sad fact, though, is that most of the people who successfully lose weight will regain it later.

So, is there one best diet to shed those extra pounds? In a study published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, 811 subjects were divided into four groups who ate diets with varying ratios of protein, carbohydrates, and fat. They were also given reinforcement through group and individual counseling sessions. They found that all four groups lost an average of 13 pounds after six months, and only 9 pounds at the end of the two-year study. The researchers principal finding was that all the diets were equally successful in promoting meaningful weight loss.

Is there one best exercise one can do to lose weight? Fitness

By RIK and JANEL VILLEGAS

Rik is a business instructor at NMC and Janel is a partner with BizResults, LLC. They can be contacted at biz_results@yahoo.com.



trainer Tom Venuto believes that any halfway intelligent workout program can work to some degree, "but over an extended period, the average results aren't all that great, regardless of the training approach." So, if it doesn't matter so much what diet or exercise program you follow, what really is THE single factor that makes the biggest difference to be successful—whether it's to lose weight and keep it off, gain muscle, or increase your fitness level?

In the *Journal of Medicine* study, they found that attendance to group counseling sessions was the factor that determined success. Individuals who knew they had to report their results to a group were more likely to follow-through on their commitments. The *Journal* paper made this statement: "These findings together point to behavioral factors rather than macronutrient metabolism as the main influence on weight loss."

This points out that it's not the particular diet you follow that will make the biggest difference; it's your commitment to follow the diet. The same could be said about any particular exercise program as well.

In another study published in the journal *BMC Public Health*, researchers interviewed 5,167 Canadian people between the ages of 15 and 79. They found that confidence and intention had the most effect on physical activity. Individuals who have the greatest confidence and intention to improve their health are the ones that will stick with a fitness plan. They perceive fewer barriers to physical activity, and will be more likely to enjoy and stay with an exercise program.

One of the most effective ways for you to stay committed to a fitness program or diet is to make yourself accountable to another person or group. Weight training, aerobics, and diet are critical components, but what's more important is your ability to put whatever program you follow into action and to stay committed.

Confidence and accountability are essential to get started. Stay motivated and stick to whatever diet or exercise program you choose to follow. It's your ability to practice mind over platter that will make the biggest difference in achieving your fitness goals.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, Century Insurance Building, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

'LOST OPPORTUNITIES AND LOST PROPERTY'**Will Fund members get the short end of the stick?**

In Judge Govendo's evaluation of the central government's responsibility for meeting its financial obligation to the Retirement Fund ("Judgment for Damages and Order Thereon"), he cited ICMC, section 7207 which *"controls what funds may be disbursed to satisfy court judgments. Except for funds appropriated for settlements and awards, no court may require the disbursement of funds from the Commonwealth Treasury or order the reprogramming of funds in order to provide for such disbursement. Any final judgment of a court shall be paid only pursuant to an item of appropriations for settlement and awards."*

The Judge went on to state, *"The Court, likewise, agrees that ICMC section 7207 may curtail its (the Court's) ability to ensure the enforceability of its judgments."*

For those who may not recall, the court's judgment concerned the \$231 million owed the Fund by the central government and lost opportunity costs over a period on many years estimated at \$16.5 million.

It's the "lost opportunity" resulting from foregone "earned interest on re-invested capital" that was never available which must also be considered as being adversely impacted as a result of ICMC - section 7207. And this "lost opportunity" is also property lost to the retirees and all other Fund members yet to retire.

That the stock market has lost money in recent months for some investors is recognized but not completely germane to the point I want to make regarding the basic principle involving the matter of lost opportunities in the context discussed herein. Had all the money due been made available to the Fund from government payments and subsequently invested by Fund money managers, a portion may or may not have been lost as a result of declining market values. No one knows. Not everyone lost money in the market in recent months. And even if money was lost, don't forget when the market was on the upswing a lot of money was made and it wasn't all lost when the downturn occurred. Many investors had residual profit from previous gains. However, what is known is that the central government didn't pay and hasn't paid, thus the money wasn't valuable for investment and that fact can be documented as lost opportunity (albeit with the possibility of potential risk).

That market losses were sustained by the Fund in recent months is well known. It has been pointed out such was the result, in part, of the decision to engage in riskier investments that offered a higher return, which were made to attempt to maintain the overall value of the portfolio or at least cushion the loss. It's not too unlike trying to keep ahead as with a "rolling average."

I don't want to get into the whole concept of the separation of powers of three equal branches of government, of which one first becomes aware somewhere in elementary school, but if you were to ask me if

ICMC-section 7207 were to remain unchallenged and remain on the books, then in my judgment the CNMI's Judicial Branch will continue to be emasculated (if you know what I mean). Particularly so as far as rendering any monetary judgments or punitive action against the central government on behalf of the Retirement Fund or any other debt for which the Court has found the central government liable.

I'm no U.S. constitutional scholar but I'll be a "monkey's uncle" if the above NMI law would be upheld if challenged in a U.S. court since it strikes me as conflicting with the private property rights of U.S. citizens as protected by the U.S. Constitution.

A cursory review of the 5th amendment of the U.S. Constitution, "Rights of Persons" and the 14th amendment "Rights Guaranteed Privileges and Immunities of Citizenship Due Process and Equal Protection" would seem to render 1 CMC - 2707 unconstitutional. The 5th Amendment states in pertinent part, *"No person shall be etc., etc., be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation."*

I emphasize the term "property" and the fact that money legally due the Fund was withheld by the NMI government and subsequently spent, presumably for public use.

It's my considered economic opinion that I—and all who may agree with me—have already been deprived of private property by the central government in the form of the loss of millions of dollars in potential re-invested interest earnings derived from funds which should have been paid by the central government over a period of many years but were not. Money that, if it had been paid into the Fund, could have otherwise been invested on behalf of all retirees, both those currently retired and those scheduled to do so in the future. The financial property loss to the Defined Benefit Plan Fund members has been massive and can never be recovered—"lost opportunity" and "lost property" it certainly is.

A review of the U.S. Constitution's 14th Amendment provides further protection of the property rights of all members of the Retirement Fund and its continued diminishment of potential investment earnings as a result of the central government's continued and deliberate failure to meet its financial obligation to the Fund and all members of the DBP.

Local law 1 CMC - 2707 should be challenged at an early date on the basis that the 14th amendment of the U.S. Constitution renders 1 CMC - 2707 unconstitutional. This amendment to the U.S. Constitution provides, *"All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of*

By WILLIAM H. STEWART*Special to the Saipan Tribune*

the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

I think it's safe to presume that in this context the U.S. Constitution applies in the NMI.* Again, all the more reason to challenge section 2707 if you ask me.

For the central government to invoke ICMC-2707 resulting in nonpayment to the Fund and subsequently for the NMI Legislature not to allocate funds to meet the Executive Branch's judicially recognized obligation to pay its debt is to be blatantly and profoundly dishonest with a black mark against the creditworthiness of the NMI government. Not to mention the impending severe financial hardships certain to befall retirees in the not-too-distant future if predictions of Fund officials as to the possibility of bankruptcy are realized.

If you are a member of the Fund's DBP, write it on the wall so you don't forget: Such disregard of retiree's interests on the part of both the executive and legislative branches of the NMI government will also have far reaching and serious unintended negative consequences on the island's future bond ratings as well as profound adverse effects on the confidence and stability needed by foreign investors (and that's my field of experience).

Friends, as you can see there's more to the situation with the Retirement Fund than meets the eye. Talk about it during your pocket meetings and question those running for office. If you are a member of the Fund, it's your property; you just can't grow flowers with it. But be careful you don't end up with only the "short end of the stick" for your tomato plants—or whatever other crop is being grown out back.

**Author's Note: See Article IV, Section 3 C1.2 of the U.S. Constitution (Territorial Clause) and the Commission on Federal Law's report: "Welcoming America's Newest Commonwealth, The Second Interim Report of the Northern Marianas Commission on Federal Laws to the Congress of the United States," August 1985, Vol. 1 and the Documentary Supplement*

Letters to the Editor**Tribute to Dr. Rita Inos**

Last Saturday, Aug. 15; 2009, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands laid to rest one of its most accomplished, dedicated, dynamic and admired educational leader.

Dr. Rita Inos' many contributions to the educational system in the CNMI has earned her the respect of many educators in the Pacific region. Perhaps it is fair that we call her the "mother" of our educational system in the CNMI for her outstanding contributions in both primary and postsecondary education in the CNMI.

Through Dr. Inos' encouragement and inspiration, many of our students, teachers, and administrators throughout our Public Schools System have gone on to achieve higher education and have graduated from colleges and universities and are now contributing leaders in the Public Schools System throughout the CNMI.

My daughter, Tracy del Rosario, is one of those individuals that Dr. Inos mentored to get into the field of Special Education, a field very much needed in the CNMI. During Tracy's graduation last year at Chaminade University in Hawaii, Dr. Inos and her husband Cris invited us for lunch to show her appreciation and encouragement for Tracy's success.

But in spite of her struggle with cancer, Dr. Inos never gave up as she continue to serve and support Northern Marianas College's Board of Regents to ensure that NMC's accreditation gets reaffirmed. The Northern Marianas College, in spite of all obstacles, pulled itself out and accomplished that goal, gaining full accreditation status.

Dr. Inos didn't stop there. Prior to her death, she worked with Dr. Liz Rechebe to form a committee to revise and improve the Chamorro-English Dictionary, which Dr. Donald Topping, Mr. Pedro Ogo and Bernadita C. Dungca published for the Chamorro Language. Dr. Inos' work in promoting the Chamorro and Carolinian language in our educational system was evidence of her strong advocacy for our cultural heritage.

I can go on and on listing the many accomplishments and contributions of Dr. Rita H. Inos who, at a young age, left her home on Rota to pursue her studies at Southern California in the United States and accomplished her dream to achieve her goal in attaining higher education and returned home to assist the CNMI advance its educational system.

But one thing that really touched me was the mere fact that in spite of her health condition, Dr. Rita Inos never stopped helping the CNMI as she continued to help at the Northern Marianas College, the Chamorro/English Dictionary revision work, and education in Micronesia and the Pacific region. In 1985, the people of Rota elected Dr. Inos as one of its candidates to the second constitutional convention.

To her husband Cris, the children and to the family, the people of the CNMI join me in extending our sincerest appreciation, gratitude, sen dankulo na si yuus ma'ase, and olomwaay for the outstanding contributions left behind by your wife and mom, Dr. Rita H. Inos.

To Dr. Inos, you left us with lots of fond memories as you journey to your next destination—to be with our Lord God. May our prayers guide you to be with our Lord God.

Memorias Ginen Hami,

Herbert and Rose Rosario and family*via e-mail***Simple but tough 'how' questions**

Recent articles published by the local papers report that there are 110 officially certified candidates vying for some 40-plus seats in the upcoming November elections. This announcement is a strong indication that democracy is alive and well in the Commonwealth.

Conversely, the same development also begs the following simple but tough "how" questions: Of the 110 candidates, how many are real choices? How many possess leadership qualities? How many possess the much-needed experience to steer the CNMI toward economic prosperity? How many of them are just running for the sake of running? How many are running

for all the wrong reasons? How many of them are running to obtain gainful employment? How of them know the dynamics and functions of the various offices that they respectfully seek? How many of them even know why they are running? How many have realistic plans? How many of them are disgruntled? How many of them are vindictive? How many of the candidates are politically-savvy? How many of them are reactive? How many of them are pro-active? How many of the candidates are issue-driven or knowledgeable?

As voters, we need to ask these candidates more tough HOW questions and not so much WHY or WHAT questions. To ask

WHY one is running or WHAT s/he intends to do when elected is not enough. Let's expand on these two questions to also include HOW these candidates plan to improve life in the CNMI.

While it does not take a rocket scientist to know that not all 110 candidates running in the upcoming elections will get elected, this we know: the CNMI needs to ensure that the *best* 40-plus candidates are the ones who get elected! How? We can start by asking the candidates simple but tough HOW questions.

Kimo Mafnas Rosario*As Gonno, Koblerville*

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms.
▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 87° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 77
Palau	Mostly Sunny	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Yap	Mostly Sunny	▲ 88 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 78
Pohnpei	Cloudy	▲ 88 ▼ 73
Kosrae	Sunny	▲ 88 ▼ 77
Majuro	Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲ 59 ▼ 46
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 93 ▼ 69
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲ 91 ▼ 81
Honolulu	Cloudy	▲ 84 ▼ 78
London	Showers	▲ 75 ▼ 55
Los Angeles	Cloudy	▲ 80 ▼ 64
Manila	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 78
Melbourne	Rain	▲ 62 ▼ 48
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 92 ▼ 80
New York	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 74
Osaka	Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 69
Paris	Showers	▲ 78 ▼ 54
Pusan	Partly Sunny	▲ 84 ▼ 74
Rome	Sunny	▲ 91 ▼ 69
Salem	Sunny	▲ 93 ▼ 55
San Francisco	Cloudy	▲ 75 ▼ 58
Seoul	Rain	▲ 88 ▼ 65
Tokyo	Partly Sunny	▲ 82 ▼ 71
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲ 93 ▼ 76

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
1:12 AM Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet
6:25 AM Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
1:38 PM Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet
8:20 PM Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2009

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Vamco (11W) is centered well east-northeast of the Marianas near 17N158E moving north-northeast at 3 mph with maximum sustained winds of 75 mph. Numerous showers and scattered thunderstorms are located between 17N and 20N from 156E to 160E. Also convergent southwesterly winds into Vamco are triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms north of Chuuk and Pohnpei within 150 miles of a line from 8N147E to 14N162E. For more detailed information, see JTWC bulletins issued under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW and Tropical Cyclone public advisories issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM. Convergent southeast winds are generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms north of the Marianas between 19N and 25N from 143E to 145E. The remnant circulation of Tropical Depression 01C (Maka) centered Southeast of Wake Island near 16N170E in conjunction with an upper-level low centered at 25N178E is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms within 100 miles of a line from 16N170E to 21N178E to 25N178E. Convergent west winds are generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Koror and southeast of Yap between the equator and 8N from 132E to 138E and within 75 miles of a line from 4N143E to 7N147E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms between Kosrae and the Marshall Islands within 150 miles of a line from 1N164E to 5N170E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:03 AM	6:38 PM
Friday	6:03 AM	6:37 PM
Saturday	6:03 AM	6:36 PM
Sunday	6:04 AM	6:36 PM
Monday	6:04 AM	6:35 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:31 AM	6:24 PM
Friday	6:32 AM	7:09 PM
Saturday	7:30 AM	7:51 PM
Sunday	8:27 AM	8:33 PM
Monday	9:23 AM	9:15 PM

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- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
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- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
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- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

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- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 18, 2009

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP) C09597 11:50am 12:25pm 1, 7	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN C09598 3:15am 3:50am 5, 6 C09312 1:20pm 1:55pm 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM C09597 12:50pm 1:20pm 1, 7	GUAM-ROTA (ROP) C09598 2:10am 2:40am 5, 6 C09312 12:10pm 12:40pm 6
SAIPAN-GUAM C09317 4:20am 5:10am Daily C09313 8:30am 9:20am Daily C09597 11:50am 1:20pm 1, 7 via ROP C09601 12:30pm 1:20pm 4, 5 C09603 3:30pm 4:20pm Daily C09605 6:30pm 7:20pm Daily C09599 9:30pm 10:20pm Daily	GUAM-SAIPAN C09598 2:10am 3:50am 5, 6 via ROP C09316 2:20am 3:10am 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 C09596 7:00am 7:50am Daily C09600 10:20am 11:10am 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 C09312 12:10pm 1:55pm 6 via ROP C09602 2:00pm 2:50pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09604 5:00pm 5:50pm Daily C09606 8:00pm 8:50pm Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) C0941 5:30am 8:05am Daily NW99 6:05am 8:40am Daily NW78 9:00am 2:05pm Daily via NGO NW75 3:50pm 6:25pm Daily C0943 5:25pm 8:00pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN C0942 9:25am 1:55pm Daily NW76 10:00am 2:35pm Daily NW77 6:35pm 1:40am+1 Daily via NGO NW100 8:45pm 1:20am+1 Daily C0944 9:00pm 1:30am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX) OZ119 4:00am 6:40am Daily	OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN OZ120 9:55pm 2:20am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO) NW78 9:00am 11:40am Daily	NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN NW77 9:10pm 1:40am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) OZ608 3:20am 6:50am 1, 4, 5, 7	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN OZ607 9:00pm 2:20am+1 3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ604 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ604 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ119 4:00am 11:20am Daily via KIX OZ606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN OZ605 9:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 Daily via KIX OZ603 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ603 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) FM844 2:50am 5:40am 2, 6	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN FM843 7:15pm 1:50am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) CZ3008 3:30am 6:40am 2, 6	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN CZ3007 7:30pm 2:40am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA OZ604/701 2:20am 11:25am 1 via ICN OZ604/703 2:50am 11:25am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C09603/933 3:30pm 8:40pm Daily via GUM C09599/PR111 9:30pm 7:45am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	MANILA-SAIPAN OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN PR110/C09596 10:00pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM C0934/9596 10:55pm 7:50am+1 Daily via GUM OZ716/605 12:30am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6 via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG OZ604/721 2:20am 11:45am 1 via ICN OZ604/721 2:50am 11:45am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	HONG KONG-SAIPAN OZ724/605 12:30am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 100 7:00am 7:30am Daily				FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 100 7:50am 8:20am Daily				FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 200 9:00am 9:30am Daily				FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
FRE 200 9:50am 10:15am Daily				Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
Guam-Rota				FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 300 4:00pm 4:30pm Daily				FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 300 4:50pm 5:25pm Daily				FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 400 6:00pm 6:30pm Daily				FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 400 6:45pm 7:15pm Daily				FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 101 6:45am 6:55am Daily				FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 103 7:30am 7:40am Daily				FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 105 8:00am 8:10am Daily				FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 107 8:40am 8:50am Daily				FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily
FRE 109* 9:10am 9:20am Daily							
FRE 111* 10:45am 10:55am Daily							



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NMC offers course to improve one's PRAXIS score

The Northern Marianas College, through the Division of Community Programs and Services' Community Development Institute, is offering short-term courses to individuals preparing to take the PRAXIS I and II examinations.

The courses are designed to give potential test-takers an idea of what to expect on the PRAXIS I and II exams.

The PRAXIS I Review will cover Pre-Professional Skills Test Math, PPST Writing, and PPST Reading. The PRAXIS II Review will cover

knowledge in Elementary Education: Literature & Language Arts, Mathematics, History & Social Studies, and Sciences.

Both courses are open to all elementary teachers in the private and public school systems.

Course schedules and fees are listed below.

PRAXIS I Review

Date: August 22, 2009 (Saturday)
Time: 8:30 am to 12:00 pm

Room: TBA (NMC Campus)

Fee: \$60 (Course materials included)

PRAXIS I Practice Test

Date: August 29, 2009 (Saturday)

Time: 8:30 am to 12:00 pm

Room: TBA (NMC Campus)

Fee: \$60 (Course materials included)

PRAXIS II Review

Date: September 4, 2009 (Friday)

Time: 4:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Room: TBA (NMC Campus)

Fee: \$60 (Course materials included)

PRAXIS II Practice Test

Date: September 5, 2009 (Saturday)

Time: 8:30 am to 12:00 pm

Room: TBA (NMC Campus)

Fee: \$60 (Course materials included)

It is recommended that individuals register before the first day of the course. Certificates will be awarded to registered students who complete all course requirements. Full payment is required for admis-

sion to a class.

The courses are offered as part of the college's mission to provide customized, continuing educational and professional development opportunities in response to community needs.

To register or to obtain more information, you can visit the CDI Office in Building P on the NMC Campus in As Terlaje or contact John Manalo at 234-5498 ext. 1030 or e-mail johnm@nmcnet.edu. You can also log on to www.nmcnet.edu. **(PR-NMC)**

Bridge Capital donates to back-to-school program



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Bridge Capital employees Cristi Cabaltica-Abad and Lily Nguyen pose with the Humanitarian Class "Back to School" Program at Ladera International School of Saipan during the turnover of a \$500 donation to the class.

Bridge Capital LLC announced Monday its donation of \$500 to the Humanitarian Class "Back to School" Program at Ladera International School of Saipan.

Bridge Capital employees Cristi Cabaltica-Abad and Lily Nguyen visited the school campus to hear from the students and present the donation check, the funds from which will be used to purchase school supplies for needy children.

For more than a month the Hu-

manitarian Class studied and planned in an effort to address those in need. The program's intent is to educate and inspire a sense of social responsibility in the students.

Lily Nguyen, public relations spokesperson and assistant to John K. Baldwin, chairman of Bridge Capital, said, "Even in the hardest economic downturn, when many families are finding themselves in need, parents want to ensure that their children can start their

school year with optimism. This is an ideal project for Bridge Capital to support and we commend these students for their unselfish giving."

Bridge Capital, LLC is an international investment banking and real estate development company headquartered in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands that supports the community with donations to schools and local organizations. **(PR)**

IBPC/EIHS offers earned credits to meet high school graduation

The International Business & Professional College through its chartered high school, Excelsior International High School, offers high school students a chance to make the grade and graduate with fellow students and friends of their peers.

Understanding that there are over 300 students on Saipan alone that need or are missing subject credits to meet their 28 credit graduation requirement from high school, IBPC through EIHS can provide students with their needs.

IBPC commenced its high school credit offering since January 2006. These credits are approved and accepted by the Public School System to enable students to meet the 28-credit graduation requirements.

"IBPC/EIHS has provided the necessary subjects that students lack to meet graduation requirements. We at IBPC/

EIHS ensure that we work closely with their counselors to have each student take the necessary subjects that they need. Our classes are often convenient for those who need them as our hours do not affect their times at regular school days," said Herman Sablan, IBPC president.

Subjects offered include Language Arts, Composition, Literature, Grammar, Algebra, NMI History, Environmental Science, US Government, Computer (Elective) and Geometry.

By using IBPC's chartered high school, students will be able to keep abreast of their development and maintain the opportunity to graduate with peers.

"Our faculty is experienced and we have qualified instructors in the various subject areas we offer," said Sablan. **(PR)**

Tinian DPS sets DUI checkpoints

The Department of Public Safety will be conducting DUI checkpoints on Tinian this Friday and on Wednesday and Friday next week.

These checkpoints are part of the "Impaired Driving National Enforcement Crackdown" scheduled for this week and next week.

On Friday, Aug. 21, the checkpoint will be held along the eastbound land by the baseball field in San Jose Village, from 9pm to 10:15pm.

The second scheduled setup will be on Wednesday, Aug. 26, along the

northbound lane on Broadway Road by the Old Tinian Hotel, from 10pm to 11:15pm.

The third scheduled setup will be on Saturday, Aug. 29, 2009, along the eastbound lane by the baseball field in San Jose Village, from 10pm to 11:15pm.

Each checkpoint conducted will last at least 75 minutes (1 hour 15 minutes) at each location.

Police officers will also be conducting highway criminal interdictions, saturation patrol, and aggressive driver interdictions. **(PR)**



RAFFLE WINNER

Left, Jayvee Vallejera of Fina Sisu poses with the Huggies mascot after winning \$150 worth of grocery products during the first draw of the "Back to School Shopping Spree," sponsored by Huggies, Viva, and Kotex, last Saturday, Aug. 15, 2009. The next draw is on Sept. 12, 2009. All you have to do is purchase any Huggies, Viva, or Kotex products to win \$150 worth of back-to-school shopping spree.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy "Sweet 16th" birthday to Marilyn Lu-vonne Cabrera Naputi and happy 12th birthday to Maelyn Matile Cabrera Naputi, who are both celebrating their birthdays today, Aug. 20! Lots of love from your family!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Chief Officer Patrick Cabrera Sablan on his retirement from the U.S. Navy on Aug. 7, 2009, from Whidbey Island Oak Harbor, Washington, after 24 years of serving the USN. The retirement ceremony is the nation's expression of appreciation of job well-done, a sincere official recognition of a long period of faithful and honorable service. Good luck and god bless you!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



NMC REGISTRATION

Prospective students inquire about enrollment procedures during the start of registration at the Northern Marianas College on Monday, Aug. 17. Over 600 students enrolled with the college during the first day of registration. The number is expected to increase as a result of the college's reaffirmation of its accreditation with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Business

Study: Financial executives see growth in 2010

NEW YORK (AP)—Financial services executives believe business conditions will bottom in 2009 before a recovery in the sector and broader economy occurs next year, according to a new study from KPMG LLP.

About 70 percent of the 130 executives polled believe revenue and profitability in the financial services sector will improve in 2010, according

to the business climate survey conducted by the audit, tax and advisory firm. However, respondents were split about whether a recovery among financial firms will lead or lag a rebound in the broader U.S. economy.

The financial services sector has been among the hardest hit by the credit crisis and ongoing recession that began in late

2007. Major financial firms such as American International Group Inc., Citigroup Inc. and Bank of America Corp. have received billions of dollars in government aid amid the market downturn.

Financial firms have been struggling with mounting losses across nearly all types of consumer and commercial loans as more customers fall behind on

repaying debt. Companies have also been forced to sharply cut the value of certain investments

as demand has waned for products such as securities backed by pools of risky mortgages.

Oil rises to near \$70 on US crude inventory drop

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices rose to near \$70 a barrel Wednesday in Asia, rallying for a second day after U.S. crude inventories unexpectedly fell last week.

Benchmark crude for September delivery was up 79 cents to \$69.98 a barrel by midday in Singapore in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. On Tuesday, the contract gained \$2.44 to settle at \$69.19.

Crude has snaked around \$70 for about two months amid low summer trading volume. Investors are cheered by signs that the global economy is emerging from recession, but concerned the recovery may be sluggish.

U.S. crude demand has been weak so far this summer, but inventories unexpectedly fell last week, evidence consump-

tion could be rebounding.

Inventories plunged 6.1 million barrels last week, the American Petroleum Institute said late Tuesday. Analysts expected the API numbers to gain 1.1 million barrels, according to a survey by Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hill Cos.

The Energy Department reports mandatory supply figures on Wednesday, while the API numbers are reported by refiners voluntarily.

In other Nymex trading, gasoline for September delivery rose 0.98 cent to \$2.01 a gallon and heating oil held at \$1.86. Natural gas for September delivery was steady at \$3.10 per 1,000 cubic feet.

In London, Brent prices rose 35 cents to \$72.71 a barrel on the ICE Futures exchange.

Inflation a no-show in July, likely to stay muted

WASHINGTON (AP)—Inflation was a no-show in July and likely will stay away for months to come, giving the Federal Reserve room to keep invigorating the economy with record-low interest rates.

That was the message economists took from a report Tuesday that wholesale prices fell over the past 12 months by the sharpest amount in 62 years of record-keeping—the latest sign that inflation is posing no threat.

“In this economy, there really is no pricing power at all,” said Brian Bethune, chief U.S.

financial economist at IHS Global Insight.

The Labor Department said wholesale prices sank 0.9 percent in July, triple the decline that economists had expected. Over the past year, wholesale prices have dropped 6.8 percent. That’s the biggest drop in records dating to 1947.

A steep decline in energy prices drove the overall drop. But even apart from energy and food prices, which tend to be volatile, inflation was calm. The so-called “core” inflation rate for wholesale goods—excluding food and energy—fell

0.1 percent in July. And over the past 12 months, the core rate has ticked up a moderate 2.6 percent.

Economists expect inflation to remain tame as the economy struggles to mount a sustained recovery. High unemployment, wary shoppers and tight credit imposed by a banking system still reeling from the financial crisis have kept a lid on prices.

“There is little reason to think that inflation will get out of control any time soon,” said Joel Naroff, chief economist at Naroff Economic Advisors.



HOME CONSTRUCTION UP

AP
New housing construction is seen in the Briar Chapel community near Chapel Hill, N.C., Monday, Aug. 17, 2009. Construction of single-family homes rose in July for the fifth straight month, edging up almost 2 percent to the highest level since last October, the government said Tuesday. Building permits climbed nearly 6 percent. Each new home built creates about three jobs on average and generates about \$90,000 in taxes paid to local and federal authorities. With new construction up 37 percent from its low point this winter, the industry is expected to help the overall economy this quarter for the first time in three and a half years.

PS3 price cut by \$100; slimmer model to come

NEW YORK (AP)—After months of rumors and anticipation, Sony Corp. is slashing the price of the PlayStation 3 by \$100 in hopes of boosting sales of the console ahead of the important holiday season.

Sony Corp. said Tuesday it will cut the price of the currently available 80 gigabyte PlayStation 3 effective immediately, to \$299. It is also launching a slimmer, lighter model with a 120 GB hard drive in early September; that version will also cost \$299.

Sony also cut the price of its existing 160 GB PlayStation 3 by \$100, to \$399. All price cuts apply worldwide.

Sales of the PlayStation 3, which launched in 2006 and cost as much as \$600 at the time, have fallen behind rival consoles. Last week, market researcher NPD Group said U.S. retail stores sold about 122,000 units of the console in July, compared with nearly 203,000 for Microsoft Corp.’s Xbox 360 and more than 252,000 for the Nintendo Co.’s Wii.

Video game software makers hope Sony’s price cut will boost game sales ahead of the holidays. So far this year, the industry has suffered from weak sales because of the recession and lackluster game release schedules, which have kept consumers waiting to spend money on new titles.

Jack Tretton, president and CEO of Sony Computer Entertainment of America, said there is no question the consumer reaction to the cuts will be “phenomenal.”

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Seattle voters reject 20-cent grocery bag fee

SEATTLE (AP)—Seattle voters rejected a 20-cent fee for every paper or plastic bag they get from supermarkets, drug stores and convenience stores. With about half the ballots counted in the all-mail vote, the bag fee was failing 58 percent to 42 percent in Tuesday’s primary. City leaders had passed an ordinance to charge the bag fee, which was to start in January. But the plastics industry bankrolled a referendum to put the question to voters in Tuesday’s election. Plastic bag makers have lobbied hard to defeat the fee, outspending opponents about 15 to 1.

Retailers’ results top estimates; wariness remains

NEW YORK (AP)—Retailers that reported their second-quarter earnings Tuesday made big strides in profitability from a year ago by slashing inventory and other costs, but executives predicted shoppers will remain tightfisted. At discounter TJX Cos., which operates T.J. Maxx, Marshalls and HomeGoods stores, the benefit of offering low prices during the recession was clear: Profit rose 31 percent. At Target Corp. and Home Depot Inc., profit fell but beat Wall Street expectations, while luxury merchant Saks Inc.’s second-quarter loss widened, though cutting costs helped it do better than analysts feared.

Earnings data

help stocks regain ground after drop

NEW YORK (AP)—Now investors seem to be saying, maybe things aren’t so bad after all. Some better-than-expected retail earnings reports and the latest reading on housing drew investors back into the stock market Tuesday after the previous day’s big selloff. The major indexes rose about 1 percent, led by a surge in financial and technology companies. Investors were still wary about consumer spending and its impact on the economy but heard enough good news to fuel the comeback from Monday’s 186-point slide in the Dow Jones industrials.

GM boosts output, expresses optimism as sales rise

DETROIT (AP)—Shoppers are snapping up cars and trucks so quickly that General Motors Co. is boosting production for the rest of the year to keep up with Cash for Clunkers demand. It’s another sign that automakers believe consumers are returning to showrooms after a yearlong slump. Ford Motor Co. last week moved to increase its output, and other automakers took similar action earlier in the month. Confidence among manufacturers is up, even though analysts predict that demand from Cash for Clunkers is waning. GM said Tuesday it would add 60,000 vehicles to its production schedule in the third and fourth quarters and bring back about 1,350 laid-off workers.

STOCK Portfolio

ASIAN MARKETS

AUSTRALIA 4,416.700 Up 30.800 (+0.70%)	HONG KONG 20,322.89 Up 16.62 (+0.08%)	JAKARTA 2,340.969 Up 3.982 (+0.17%)
TOKYO 10,260.50 Down 24.46 (-0.24%)	K. LUMPUR 1,164.41 Down 4.64 (-0.40%)	MANILA 2,760.89 Up 29.34 (+1.07%)
SEOUL 1,560.46 Up 10.22 (+0.66%)	SINGAPORE 2,560.62 Down 7.10 (-0.28%)	BANGKOK 639.17 Down 1.08 (-0.17%)

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW
9,217.94
+82.60

NASDAQ
1,955.92
+25.08

S&P
989.67
0.00

MONEY MARKET

Australian Dollar	1.209
British Pound	0.605
Canadian Dollar	1.1034
Chinese Renmbi	6.8334
Euro	0.7076
Hong Kong Dollar	7.752
Indian Rupee	48.795
Indonesian Rupiah	10015
Japanese Yen	94.61
Malaysian Ringgit	3.5356
New Zealand Dollar	1.4826
Philippine Peso	48.372
Singapore Dollar	1.4492
South Korean Won	1252.55
Swiss Franc	1.0758
Taiwan Dollar	32.973
Thailand Baht	34.02

In U.S. dollar terms

Source: Associated Press

Nation

Obama talks to Bill Clinton about NKorea mission

ACROSS THE NATION

NY prosecutor: No charges in fatal wrong-way crash

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (AP)—The only person who could have been charged in a wrong-way crash that killed eight people was the drunken and stoned woman who caused the wreck and died in it, a prosecutor said Tuesday. Diane Schuler drove the wrong way for nearly two miles on the Taconic State Parkway in Westchester County last month before her minivan slammed into an SUV, authorities said. The fiery crash killed Schuler, her 2-year-old daughter, three young nieces and three men in the SUV. Her 5-year-old son survived and is being treated at a Queens rehabilitation center.

Woman charged with harassment over suggestive post

ST. PETERS, Mo. (AP)—A Missouri woman is accused of cyberbullying for allegedly posting photos and personal information of a teenage girl on the "Casual Encounters" section of Craigslist after an Internet argument. Prosecutors said 40-year-old Elizabeth A. Thrasher posted the 17-year-old's picture, e-mail address and cell phone number on the Web site in a posting that suggested the girl was seeking a sexual encounter. St. Charles County Lt. Craig McGuire said Tuesday that the victim is the daughter of Thrasher's ex-husband's girlfriend. The girl, who has not been named, received lewd messages and photographs from men she didn't know and contacted police.

Factory logjam could delay some swine flu shots

WASHINGTON (AP)—Faced with an unexpected delay, health officials are trying to counter new problems with swine flu vaccine production including a logjam at factories that put the precious liquid into syringes. The newest calculations show the nation won't have the long-promised 120 million doses ready to dispense by Oct. 15, but just 45 million instead. It appears to be more of a delay than a shortage: More are expected to arrive rapidly, about 20 million doses shipped every week, according to the latest estimates by the Department of Health and Human Services. Swine flu vaccinations still are planned for mid-October. Add in the weekly deliveries, and there should be 85 million doses on hand by October's end, and the full 195 million the government has ordered by December, the long-set date for final delivery.

Family seeks to free terminally ill Calif. woman

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Relatives and friends are calling on Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to release a terminally ill woman who has served more than 25 years in prison for her role in the killing of her abusive boyfriend, who was also her pimp. Deborah Peagler's supporters rallied outside Schwarzenegger's downtown Los Angeles office Tuesday to urge him to confirm a parole board's decision to release her early. She was diagnosed with terminal lung cancer this year. Peagler, a former prostitute, was sentenced to 25 years to life after pleading guilty to first-degree murder in 1983 for luring Oliver Wilson to a park where two men strangled him with an electrical cord. The governor has until Friday to reverse the decision.

Suspects who sparked fire may be linked to cartels

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (AP)—Investigators said Tuesday they believe marijuana growers with possible ties to Mexican drug cartels caused an 88,650-acre wildfire in northern Santa Barbara County, and there are many more pot farms hidden in remote areas around the nation. U.S. Forest Service Special Agent Russ Arthur said an unspecified "cooking device" left at an encampment by suspected drug traffickers sparked the blaze on Aug. 8 that has scorched more than 137 square miles of brush and timber and briefly threatened two dozen ranches and homes. About 30,000 marijuana plants and an AK-47 assault rifle were found near the origin of the blaze in a remote canyon in Los Padres National Forest.

Mother, boyfriend indicted in death of Idaho boy

BOISE, Idaho (AP)—The mother of an 8-year-old boy found dead in an Idaho canal and her live-in boyfriend have been indicted on first-degree murder charges by an Ada County grand jury. Thirty-year-old Melissa Jenkins and her boyfriend, 36-year-old Daniel Ehrlick Jr., were arrested Tuesday in the death of Jenkins' son, Robert Manwill. The two also face charges on accusations that they failed to report the boy's death. Robert was missing for more than a week before his body was found floating in the canal Aug. 3. No cause of death has been released, but police said evidence showed the death was not accidental.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Tuesday that information her husband brought back from North Korea has been "extremely helpful" by providing a window into what's happening in the reclusive country.

But it didn't change the Obama administration's position on North Korea, which is under pressure from the U.S. and its allies to end its nuclear weapons program.

"Our policy remains the same. Our policy is consistent," she said.

Clinton made the remarks at a State Department news confer-

ence with Colombian Foreign Minister Jaime Bermudez as President Barack Obama met with Bill Clinton about the former president's mission to North Korea that won the freedom of two imprisoned American journalists.

In a brief statement, White House spokesman Robert Gibbs said Obama thanked Clinton for undertaking the mission and the former president "described the process." Gibbs said the two spoke for 40 minutes in the West Wing's situation room before Obama invited the former president to continue their conversation for another 30 minutes in the Oval Office.

"President Obama said he was gratified that the Americans had been safely reunited with their families," Gibbs said.

The session was the second conversation between the two men on the North Korean mission, although the private meeting was the first in-person and in-depth debriefing between the current and former president. Bill Clinton also has met with National Security Council staff twice and his associates also have had extensive discussions with the NSC, State Department and other agencies about the trip.

He won the release on Aug. 4 of journalists Euna Lee and

Laura Ling, who were working for Clinton's former vice president, Al Gore, at Current-TV. The former president also met and had dinner with North Korea's leader, Kim Jong Il.

Clinton's trip was arranged secretly in part by Joseph R. DeTrani, the governments senior officer responsible for collecting and analyzing intelligence on North Korea, The New York Times reported Tuesday on its Web site.

Clinton did not ask to see Kim, requesting instead that he meet with "an appropriate official," the newspaper said, quoting unidentified senior U.S. officials.

Political columnist Robert Novak dies at 78



FOOD BANK HELPERS

In this photo taken Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2009, Derrick Bennett, left, and Wilmer Kingery harvest potatoes at Southeastern Correctional Institution in Lancaster, Ohio. The nation's food banks, struggling to meet demand in hard times, are turning to prison inmates for free labor to help feed the hungry. Several states are sending inmates into already harvested fields to scavenge millions of pounds of leftover potatoes, berries and other crops that otherwise would go to waste. Others are using prisoners to plant and harvest vegetables. The number of Americans who couldn't afford food jumped 30 percent from December 2007 to December 2008, according to a survey by Feeding America, a national association of food banks.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Political columnist Robert Novak, a conservative, pugilistic debater and proud owner of the "Prince of Darkness" moniker, died Tuesday after a battle with brain cancer that was diagnosed in July 2008. He was 78.

His wife of 47 years, Geraldine Novak, told The Associated Press that he died at his home in Washington early in the morning.

A household face as co-host of CNN's "Crossfire," Novak had been a columnist for the Chicago Sun-Times for decades.

"He was a Washington institution who could turn an idea into the most discussed story around kitchen tables, congressional offices, the White House, and everywhere in between," Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky said in a statement.

Said House Republican Leader John Boehner of Ohio: "Bob made remarkable contributions in the field of journalism and to the American political landscape."

In recent years, Novak ended up actually being a part of a big



Novak

Washington story, in ways he likely never intended, becoming a central figure in the Valerie Plame CIA leak case.

Novak was the first to publish the name of the CIA employee, and he came under withering criticism and abuse from many for that column, which Novak said began "a long and difficult episode" in his career.

"I had a terrific time fulfilling all my youthful dreams and at the same time making life miserable for hypocritical, posturing politicians and, I hope, performing a service for my country," Novak wrote

in his memoir, "The Prince of Darkness: 50 Years Reporting in Washington."

Actually Novak had been dubbed the "prince of darkness" by a journalist friend early in his career, and he embraced it. He wrote in that 2007 memoir that he became proud of the label derived from his "unsmiling pessimism about the prospects for America and Western civilization."

"He loved being a journalist, he loved journalism, he loved his country and his family," Geraldine Novak told the AP.

Ga. animal lovers killed by pack of wild dogs

LEXINGTON, Ga. (AP)—A shredded piece of shirt, some strands of hair and blood-stained dirt are all that remain along the rural stretch of road where authorities believe a pack of wild dogs fatally mauled an elderly couple.

Sherry Schweder, a 65-year-old animal lover, was taking an evening stroll when she was attacked. Her husband, Lothar Schweder, a retired professor, had gone out in search of her.

Paramedics who came to the grisly scene Saturday morning found the suspected attackers standing guard.

While it's unclear exactly what happened because there were no witnesses, officials have rounded up 16 dogs they believe were involved.

It was the same group of medium-sized, mixed-breed dogs Sherry Schweder worried about, wondering if anyone was taking care of them as she saw them wander around.

Experts say the attack is extremely rare—so rare "you are more likely to be killed by a bolt of lightning than by a dog," said Adam Goldfarb, a spokesman for the Humane Society of the United States.

Man says he sold kidney in US for \$20K

NEW YORK (AP)—In 2005, a rebellious and sporadically employed Israeli man flew to New York to give up a kidney to save an American businessman. For that, he says he was paid \$20,000, which appeared in a brown envelope on his hospital bed after the operation.

That payoff would be illegal. But the kidney donor, 39-year-old Nick Rosen of Tel Aviv, says that doesn't matter. "I smoke pot. That's also against the law."

Rosen believes he did a good

deed and that organ donors like him should be compensated. Much of his story can be confirmed, and the case gives new resonance to claims that a black market for kidneys has thrived even in the United States.

Rosen made a video about his transplant experience, and near the end of it, he is seen reclining on a bed piled with cash. A subtitle says: "This is what \$20,000 looks like." It's hard to tell the amount, but the \$100 face of Ben Franklin is visible on the bills.

Asia

SKorea loses champion of peace: Kim Dae-jung



In this May 29, 2009 file photo, former South Korean President Kim Dae-jung attends a funeral of former President Roh Moo-hyun in Seoul, South Korea.

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea lost its most fervent champion of peace and democracy with the death of former President Kim Dae-jung, winner of the Nobel Prize for his efforts

to foster reconciliation on the Korean peninsula.

Born when Korea was one nation, Kim campaigned until the end for reconciliation with the communist North, defending his

“Sunshine Policy” of openness even as he watched a decade of progress unravel under a new, conservative government.

He died at a Seoul hospital Tuesday after battling pneumonia for weeks, officials at Severance Hospital said. He was 85.

■ ■ ■

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea’s Yonhap news agency says North Korea will send a delegation to the funeral of former South Korean President Kim Dae-jung.

The report Wednesday quoted Kim Dae-jung’s former aide as saying North Korean officials conveyed a message about the plan.

■ ■ ■

Kim, who shook the hand of North Korea’s Kim Jong Il in a landmark meeting in Pyongyang in 2000, urged the two Koreas, still technically at war, to remember their “painful and tragic” past.

“The South and North have never been free from mutual fear and animosity over the past half-century—not even for a single day,” Kim Dae-jung told reporters in January. “When we cooperate, both Koreas will enjoy peace and economic prosperity.”

RP soldiers, gunmen clash near resorts

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine troops stormed a remote southwestern islet Wednesday to remove some 30 Muslim gunmen who took over a village near beach resorts popular with foreign tourists, a navy spokesman said.

Two of the gunmen were killed and another two captured when marines landed in Balabac town-

ship in the southernmost part of Palawan Island, said navy spokesman Col. Edgardo Arevalo.

The marines were going house-to-house searching for the rest of the gunmen, who appeared to have split up, he said. Navy ships were patrolling nearby waters to prevent them from escaping, he said.

None of the resorts were under immediate threat from the military operation.

The raiders led by Abdullah Abdurajak, a commander facing charges of illegal possession of firearms, started extorting money from residents and seized a mosque over the weekend, the military said.

First Muslim woman to be caned in Malaysian jail

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—A Muslim part-time model will be caned next week, becoming the first woman in Malaysia to be given the punishment under Islamic law, after she pleaded guilty to drinking beer, a prosecutor said Wednesday.

An Islamic court in July ordered that Kartika Sari Dewi Shukarno, 32, be lashed six

times with a rattan cane after she was caught drinking alcohol in a raid on a hotel night club in eastern Pahang state last year.

Prosecutor Saiful Idham Sahimi said Kartika will be the first woman to be caned under Islamic law after she chose not to appeal the sentence.

“This is the first case in Ma-

laysia. ... It is a good punishment because under Islamic law a person who drinks commits a serious offense,” he said.

On Tuesday, the court set a one-week period starting next Monday for the sentence to be carried out in a woman’s prison, Saiful said. It is up to prison authorities to decide when to cane her during that period.

a suicide car bomber on a NATO convoy. Alarmed, the government asked news media not to report violence the day of the vote. Eight people died, including a NATO soldier, and 55 were wounded in the two attacks, authorities said. In eastern Afghanistan, two U.S. service members were killed and three wounded in a separate bombing, the U.S. military announced, pushing the death toll this month for the American force to 26.

SKorea to launch 1st rocket; eyes on NK response

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea prepared Tuesday to launch its first rocket, just four months after rival North Korea defiantly launched its own and quickly was slapped with U.N. sanctions. The North has warned it would closely watch the international response to South Korea’s launch Wednesday. South Korean officials have said their rocket launch, carrying an observation satellite, is peaceful, and they hope it will boost the country’s aim to become a regional space power.

World

64 missing workers feared dead in Russian accident

MOSCOW (AP)—Divers scoured the near-freezing waters flooding the cavernous rooms of Russia’s largest hydroelectric plant on Tuesday but the owner said it was doubtful that any of the 64 workers missing after an accident would be found alive.

The accident Monday, which drowned or crushed to death 12 other workers, shut down the massive Sayano-Shushenskaya power plant in southern Siberia and left several towns and major factories without electricity. The plant provides 10 percent of Siberia’s energy needs, according to Russian media reports.

Two workers were found alive Monday in niches inside the flooded structure, RusHydro acting chief Vasily Zubakin was quoted as saying, but hope was fading for the 64 still missing.

“With every hour, there is less and less chance left that we will find somebody alive,” RusHydro spokesman Yevgeny Druzyaka told The Asso-



Damage to the Sayano-Shushenskaya power station in southern Siberia is seen Monday, Aug. 17, 2009 in this photo released by the Emergency Ministry, Siberian Branch on Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2009.

ciated Press on Tuesday. RusHydro officials say the water temperature around the plant is around 4 C (40 F).

Regional Gov. Viktor Zimin refuted allegations that rescue teams had heard knocking sounds from inside the plant after the accident, saying the dam’s thick concrete walls would muf-

fle any sounds from inside.

Federal investigators said an explosion destroyed walls and the ceiling in a room where turbines are located and caused the room to flood. One of the plant’s 10 turbines was destroyed, two were partly destroyed and three others were damaged, officials said.

Ship location kept quiet to protect hijacked crew

MOSCOW (AP)—For more than two weeks, the freighter Arctic Sea seemed to have vanished in the Atlantic Ocean’s vastness, but officials said Tuesday they knew where it was all along and were just staying mum in order to bring a dangerous hijacking drama to a bloodless end.

A Russian naval vessel reached the Arctic Sea late Sunday in waters near Cape Verde, thousands of miles (ki-

lometers) from the Algerian port it was to have docked at on Aug. 4. Russian Defense Minister Anatoly Serdyukov said Tuesday that eight suspected hijackers were in custody.

It was the first official confirmation that the ship had been attacked, after weeks of rumors and clues about why the vessel might have disappeared.

The Maritime Authority in Malta, where the Russian-crewed ship is registered, said

in a statement late Tuesday that “The movements of the MV Arctic Sea were always known for several days, notwithstanding reports that the ship had ‘disappeared.’”

Authorities in Finland, Malta and Sweden had agreed “not to disclose any sensitive information in order not to jeopardize the life and safety of the persons on board and the integrity of the ship,” the statement said.

WORLD BRIEFS

Israel quietly halts settlement building permits

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israel has quietly moved to halt new housing projects in the West Bank, while outwardly rebuffing U.S. pressure to stop construction in its settlements, Israeli government officials, peace activists and settlers said Tuesday. It isn’t the full settlement freeze the Obama administration has been demanding, but it indicates that Israel is seeking a compromise in what has become a rare public disagreement with the U.S., its most important ally. The government has issued no new construction permits for months, the officials, activists and settlers said, a rare agreement among elements that are usually bitter enemies—evidence that this is a new policy aimed at defusing the settlement squabble.

Honduras orders expulsion of Argentine diplomats

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP)—Honduras’ interim government ordered Argentine diplomats Tuesday to leave the country in three days, sending a defiant message ahead of a visit by six foreign ministers who are seeking the restoration of ousted President Manuel Zelaya. The Foreign Ministry said the diplomats were ordered to leave in response to Argentina’s decision to expel the Honduran ambassador, who has recognized the government of Interim President Roberto Micheletti. It was another signal that Micheletti will not budge on international demands that Zelaya be restored to power. “If Argentina decided to expel us then we will do the same thing,” Micheletti said. “We have to act the same way they are acting with us.”

Hurricane Bill now Category 3 storm in Atlantic

MIAMI (AP) -- Bill became a major hurricane far out in the Atlantic on Tuesday, with winds whipping near 125 mph, and forecasters say it could strengthen even further. The National Hurricane Center said people in the Leeward Islands should monitor Bill’s progress, though the core of the dangerous storm was expected to pass well northwest of the islands late Wednesday and early Thursday. Hurricane hunter planes found that Bill, the first hurricane of the Atlantic season, had strengthened to a Category 3 storm Tuesday night.

Imprisoned Iranian activists hospitalized

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) -- Two prominent Iranian opposition activists have been hospitalized, one after being beaten by his jailers for refusing to attend trial, the other from a nine-day hunger strike, a reformist Web site reported Tuesday. Feizollah Arabsorkhi, a prominent member of a reformist political party, was severely beaten by his jailers at Evin prison when he wouldn’t attend his trial, the Iran Green Wave Camp Web site said Tuesday. He was sent to Tehran’s Baghiatollah-al-Azam military hospital, which is controlled by the Revolutionary Guards, an elite military unit that led the crackdown against protesters. Ahmad Zeidabadi, a journalist and former student leader, is also in poor health after being forced to break his hunger strike on Monday, added the site. He stopped eating after his Aug. 8 court appearance.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Chinese mayor apologizes for lead poisoning

CHANGQING, China (AP)—A mayor apologized to residents of two Chinese villages where more than 600 children were sickened by lead poisoning, saying a nearby smelter targeted by angry protests would not reopen until it meets health standards, state media said Tuesday. Authorities have promised to relocate hundreds of families within two years, the official Xinhua News Agency said, but residents were not reassured. At least 615 of 731 children in two villages near the Dongling Lead and Zinc Smelting Co. plant in Shaanxi province’s Changqing town have tested positive for lead poisoning. Some had lead levels 10 times the level China considers safe.

Attacks rock Kabul ahead of vote; media restricted

KABUL (AP)—Insurgents struck the Afghan capital two days before national elections, firing rockets or mortars at the presidential palace and unleashing

Environment

Volunteers help save soil and reefs at Laolao planting

About 100 volunteers spent Sunday morning planting hundreds of trees, seeds and coconuts in a project to support coral reef health by reducing soil loss in Laolao Bay.

The Community Planting Day, which took place on Aug. 16, built on efforts in 2006 to help reduce the amount of soil washing into the bay and smothering the coral reefs. The Division of Environmental Quality led efforts to coordinate the event with support from the CNMI Department of Land and Natural Resources, Beautify CNMI and Coastal Resources Management Office.

"The overwhelming community support shown by the attendance at this planting event is a demonstration of our islands commitment to protecting Laolao Bay's Coral Reefs," said Kathleen Herrmann, project coordinator and NOAA Coral Reef Management Fellow based at DEQ.

About 100 *puting* seeds and 50 trees from the Division of Forestry, along with 500 coconuts from the community were planted in badland areas of the revegetation site at Laolao, according to Beautify CNMI's Angelo Vilagomez. Planting took place in Phase II and Phase III of a planting plan from



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Volunteers carry coconuts that were planted on Aug. 16, in a project to support coral reef health by reducing soil loss in Laolao Bay.

the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The Laolao Revegetation Project aims to protect the Laolao Bay Watershed to reduce the amount of sediment accumulating on the adjacent coral reefs.

A watershed is an area of land that

drains to a common point, in this case Laolao Bay. Development and illegal clearing and burning in watersheds increases storm flow, which leads to erosion of soils that can damage corals. The increase of water flow can also lead to the increased water contaminants that can be toxic to living things. (PR)

Learning about the island's on-site disposal systems

By **JESSE RAY C. DLGUERRERO**
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Hafa Adai and Tirow! My name is Jesse Ray C. DLGuerrero and I am a student at the Northern Marianas College majoring in Business Trade. Last summer, I had the opportunity to work in the NMC-CREES Plant Pathology lab collecting data. One night during a barbecue, I overheard my mentor, Yubert Alepuyo, talking with my brother-in-law and explaining how he collects data in the field—whether on land or water—and processes it for analysis in Geographic Information System. This information is used for permitting purposes or for better decision making. I started to think about how GIS is really a critical tool in our daily activities, and that I was very interested in applying for an internship at the Division of Environmental Quality under his program.

One of the projects introduced to me was the on-site disposal systems survey. It was developed in 2003 under the authority of Public Law 3-23 and 11-103 and the Governor's directive No. 220. It is designed to inspect each lot, whether it is used for commercial purpose(s) or simply a residential home. The main goal and objective

of the survey was to inspect and collect data to better understand how each lot disposes its generated wastewater as well as household and solid waste. When conducting the survey we must meet with the owner or a premise representative first to educate them about the OSDS survey and its purpose. Then we gather basic information about the site, which includes the owner's name, lot number, location, type of premises, contact number, wastewater disposal

methods and GPS coordinates of the IWDS location within the lot using the Trimble GeoXT system.

On Mondays we spend time processing the data, differentially correcting the GPS data, and analyzing the data in ESRI's software ArcGIS. This survey is essential for environmental quality,



especially to prevent and try to reduce groundwater contamination. While inspecting we look for connections of wastewater discharge and if any breakout is occurring. The way in which a septic system treats wastewater is really quite simple, and when it works properly, the quality of the treated waste can be better than what is produced by large sewage treatment plants. The treatment occurs at two main points: inside the septic tank, and in the soil absorption

system, usually called a leaching field. The wastewater first passes into the septic tank, where it is held for about 24 hours allowing time for solids to settle to the bottom as sludge, or float to the surface as scum, naturally occurring bacteria breaks down these solids over time, allowing the septic tank to function for long periods of time without maintenance. From the septic tank, the wastewater then flows into the leaching field. Here, the partially treated wastewater spreads out through the gravel, and is slowly absorbed by the soil.

Again, naturally occurring bacteria and other microorganisms treat the wastewater as it filters through the soil, consuming the harmful bacteria and even some chemicals in the wastewater. After passing through a certain amount of soil, usually three feet, the treatment of the wastewater is complete and it then mixes with the groundwater below your home. The OSDS survey plays a major role in keeping our ground water clean and maintaining a sanitary environment. This survey will determine whether the premise is in compliance with DEQ regulations. If there are violation(s) committed, we inform the individual of the corrective actions needed and schedule follow up inspections.

Other than the OSDS survey, my mentor and I spent two days hiking at one of the ongoing Non Point Source project in Kagman I, situated within the Lao Lao Bay watershed. DEQ and a group of government agencies, along with non-profit organizations and volunteers, are working together to restore and re-vegetate the site by planting variety of native trees recommended by the NRCS office.

Internship clarifies student's career goals

By **SHARISSE RIVERA**
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Hafa Adai! My name is Sharisse Rivera. I am 19 years old and a student at the Northern Marianas College. I am currently majoring in Natural Resources Management and Nursing. Both majors are interesting.

As an education and outreach intern at the Division of Environmental Quality in the Nonpoint Source Pollution branch, I am privileged to have not one but two mentors! Kathleen Herrmann, Coral Reef fellow, and Lisa Eller, outreach and publications coordinator. Both of them have been guiding me in my experience at the Division of Environmental Quality and making it an unforgettable one.

DEQ's Nonpoint Source Pollution branch protects public health and the environment by controlling polluted runoff from entering receiving waters through the use of best management practices. This branch is responsible for keeping CNMI waters clean and healthy for beneficial uses through demonstrations of best management practices, and engaging in public education awareness campaigns.

During my internship, I was given a list of projects to accomplish. The first project that I did during my internship was to make an outreach presentation on Marine Debris. The presentation was for an outreach program for high school students called the "Saipan Summer Course - Marine Fisheries and Resources." The presentation went well and I think the students were more aware on the types of marine the debris, the impacts of marine debris, and the shelf life of marine debris. Marine Debris is any man-made object discarded, disposed of, or abandoned that gets into the coastal or marine environment.

The 26th Pacific Islands Environment Conference was held this year at Saipan World Resort. This was one of the most interesting conferences I have ever attended. The conference was a good introduction for me for my internship. It gave me a good overview on the issues in our environment. During the conference, I was assigned to give leis to specific speakers and I was also time keeper. It was very fun since it was my first time to give leis and be a time keeper in a conference. I was also helping during the registration where I met most of the officials from different environmental agencies.

My first major project was to make a t-shirt design and flyer for the Lao Lao Tree Planting Day. I was able to make the design and post flyers here on island. The Lao Lao Revegetation Project aims to protect the Lao Lao Bay Watershed to reduce agricultural and grazing runoff, and rebuild diversion and return flow structures to minimize impacts on aquatic habitat. The community event took place on Aug. 16, 2009. The event is sponsored by the Division of Environmental Quality, Coastal Resources Management,

Coral Reef Initiative, Department of Forestry, and Beautify CNMI.

Another project that I was able to complete during my internship was the Watershed Academy Web Training. It has six modules: Introductory/Overview Modules, Watershed Ecology Modules, Watershed Change Modules, Analysis and Planning Modules, Management Practices Modules, and Community/Social/Water Law Modules. All six modules gave me a better understanding about the function of watersheds in our environment.

During my internship, we were required to attend at least one clean up brigade and a reef flat survey. I attended the last clean up brigade at Aboni Beach—820 pounds of trash were removed that day. I was also able to attend reef flat surveys at Coral Ocean Point and Bird Island Sanctuary. I enjoyed attending the reef flats. It made me aware about the different algae and invertebrate found in that location. Reef flat surveys are conducted to monitor and maintain our marine life.

The other project I helped with was the Rota Eco Camp 2009. I made the t-shirt design, certificates, badges, and field guides for Coral Gardens and I Chenchon Bird Sanctuary in Rota. The field guide for Coral Gardens composed of fishes and corals known in that area. The Bird Sanctuary guide composed of birds and plants endemic to the area. The purpose of the Rota Eco-Camp is for middle school students to gain an understanding and appreciation of natural resource management issues on Rota.

I also helped with another four-day environmental education program called "Ridge to Reef." I helped students make a wetland model. During the event, I learned about the endemic and indigenous birds here in Saipan and the CNMI. I accompanied the students to Managaha where they learned about the different corals. The program was created to help students understand and make the connection between land-based source of pollution and coral reef health. Runoff and sedimentation has been identified as one of the major threats to coral reefs.

I enjoyed my internship here at DEQ. It enhanced my knowledge about the issues in our environment. It also gave me a clearer vision on my career. I want to get my AA at the Northern Marianas College to be able to get a job and save for my new goal. I want to get my Bachelors in Science in Natural Science or Environmental Science at the University of Hawaii in Hilo. After my getting my Bachelors, I want to go to graduate school and get my Masters in Tropical Conservation Biology and Environmental Science.

The internship broadened my knowledge of our environment and made me want to know more about it. I am sure that my internship will be a memorable one.

Life & Style

No karaoke for you! Bad wiring spells tone-deaf

NEW YORK (AP)—Do your friends cover their ears when you sing along with the radio? Does the choir director ask you to lip-sync?

If you're one of the unlucky people who is tone-deaf, it turns out your brain may have a wiring problem. That's what new research published Wednesday suggests.

People who are tone-deaf can't detect differences in musical pitch but usually

have normal hearing and speech. Tone-deafness runs in families, and estimates of how many people have the problem range from 4 percent to 17 percent.

In the small study done in Boston, brain scans showed there was a difference in a particular brain circuit between those who were tone-deaf and those who weren't. Among the tone-deaf, researchers discovered there were fewer connections between two

areas of the brain that perceive and produce sounds.

The study's lead author, Psyche Loui (SY'-kee LOO'-ee), likened the connection to a highway between two islands in the brain.

In tone-deaf people, "there's less traffic on the highway," said Loui, who studies music and the brain at Harvard Medical School and is also a musician.

Loui and her colleagues took brain

scans of 20 people, half of them tone-deaf. Those who were tone-deaf had fewer nerve fibers between the frontal and temporal regions of the brain, or in some cases the fibers couldn't be detected at all.

The researchers reported their findings in Wednesday's issue of the *Journal of Neuroscience*.

"It's a new piece in our understanding of tone-deafness and the processes

that are involved in the perception of pitch in general," said Nina Kraus of Northwestern University, who wasn't involved in the research.

Loui said the brain connection they examined was long known to be involved in language. "Now that we know which brain pathways to train," she said, there may be ways to help people with tone-deafness, and perhaps those with other language disorders.

What killed Mozart? Study suggests strep infection

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—For more than two centuries, the music of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart has endured—as has the speculation about what led to his sudden death at age 35 on Dec. 5, 1791.

Was the wunderkind composer poisoned by a jealous rival? Did he have an intestinal parasite from an undercooked pork chop? Could he have accidentally poisoned himself with mercury used to treat a bout of syphilis?

A report in Tuesday's *Annals of Internal Medicine* suggests the exalted Austrian composer might have succumbed to something far more commonplace: a streptococcal infection—possibly strep throat—that led to kidney failure.

The researchers looked at death records in Vienna during the months surrounding Mozart's death—November and December 1791 and January 1792, and compared causes of death with the previous and following years.

"We saw that at the time of Mozart's death there was a minor epidemic in deaths involving edema (swelling), which also happened to be the hallmark of Mozart's final disease," said Dr. Richard Zegers of the University of Amsterdam, one of the study's authors.

There was a spike in swelling-related deaths among younger men in Vienna



This is an undated portrait of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. What killed Mozart so suddenly in 1791?

at the time of Mozart's death compared to the other years studied, suggesting a minor epidemic of streptococcal disease, Zegers said.

The cause of death recorded in Vienna's official death register was "fever and rash," though even in Mozart's time those were recognized to be merely symptoms and not an actual disease.

His surviving letters and creative output suggest that he was feeling well in the months before his death and was not suffering from any chronic ailment. Many accounts note that he fell ill not long before he died—suffering from swelling so severe, his sister-in-law recalled three decades later, that the composer was unable to turn in bed.

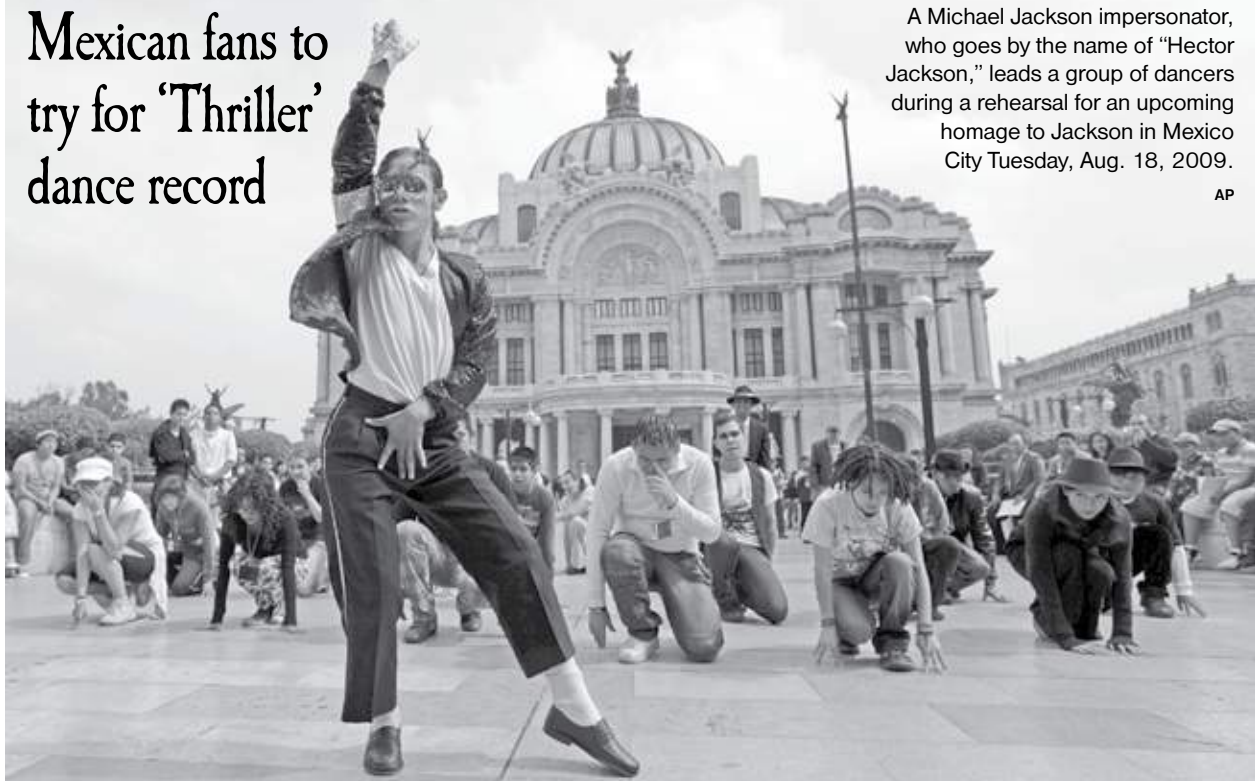
Others who reported to have been witnesses to Mozart's final days also described swelling, as well as back pain, malaise and rash—all symptoms that indicate Mozart may have died of kidney disease brought on by a strep infection.

"It's not definitive, but it's certainly food for thought," said Dr. William Schaffner, an infectious disease expert at Vanderbilt University Medical Center who was not involved in the study.

He said it was not unreasonable to presume that Mozart died from strep complications, based on the information presented, but he pointed out that the authors had scant data to go on.

"Serious streptococcal infections were much more common than they are now and, indeed, they had very serious complications," he said. "This is sure to set off many discussions going forward."

Mexican fans to try for 'Thriller' dance record



A Michael Jackson impersonator, who goes by the name of "Hector Jackson," leads a group of dancers during a rehearsal for an upcoming homage to Jackson in Mexico City Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2009.

AP

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Led by a Michael Jackson impersonator in sunglasses, a sequined black jacket and white glove, dozens of the singer's Mexican fans are practicing the steps in his "Thriller" video to attempt a new world record.

The organizer, Carlos Contreras, says

more than 10,000 people have signed up to take part in the dance routine Aug. 29, which would have been Jackson's 51st birthday. A group of about 50 showed up for practice Tuesday.

The Guinness Book of World Records says the most people to dance to

"Thriller" simultaneously in one place is held by a group of 242 College of William & Mary students who performed the routine in May.

The previous record was 147 people at an event held in 2008 at a British secondary school.

Opera singer Hildegard Behrens dies in Tokyo



AP

In this July 18, 2001 file photo, "Kostelnicka" Hildegard Behrens, left, and "Steva Buryja" David Kuebler, rehearse a scene of the opera "Jenufa" by composer Leos Janacek and director Bob Swaim, in Salzburg, Austria.

TOKYO (AP)—Soprano Hildegard Behrens, one of the finest Wagnerian performers of her generation, has died while traveling in Japan. She was 72.

Jonathan Friend, artistic administrator of the Metropolitan Opera in New York, said Tuesday in an e-mail to opera officials that Behrens felt unwell while traveling to a festival near Tokyo. She went to a Tokyo hospital, where she died of an apparent aneurism.

Friend's e-mail was shared with The Associated Press by Jack Mastroianni, director of IMG Artists.

Her funeral was planned in Vienna.

Organizers for Behrens' visit in Japan said she was in this country to teach lessons in the hot springs resort town of Kusatsu, north of Tokyo,

from Aug. 21-29. The lessons were being sponsored by the Kanshinetsu Music Association.

The organizers refused to comment further.

A Web site for the Kusatsu Summer Music Festival said Behrens' performances had been canceled, but gave no further details. It said she was to perform on Aug. 20.

Behrens was among the finest actors on the opera stage during a professional career that spanned more than three decades. She made her professional stage debut in Freiburg as the Countess in Mozart's "Le Nozze di Figaro" in 1971 and made her Metropolitan Opera debut as Giorgetta in Puccini's "Il Tabarro" in 1976.

Hope Diamond to get new setting for anniversary

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Hope Diamond is going bare to celebrate a half-century at the Smithsonian.

The mysterious blue gem was donated to the National Museum of Natural History more than 50 years ago and the museum is celebrating by having a new setting designed.

Starting in September, the 45.52 carat diamond will be exhibited as a stand-alone gem with no setting.

New York jeweler Harry Winston donated the fabled diamond to the museum and his firm is designing three possible new settings.

Starting Wednesday the public is being invited to vote online for their favorite, at <http://www.smithsonianchannel.com/hope>

The winning setting will be announced this fall and the gem will be shown in the setting starting in May, to mark the premiere of a Smithsonian Channel documentary on the diamond.

The Hope has been removed from its

setting for cleaning from time to time, but this is the first time it will be on public view by itself.

Previously it has been shown in a platinum setting, surrounded by 16 white pear-shaped and cushion-cut diamonds, suspended from a chain containing forty-five diamonds. The Hope will return to this original setting in late 2010.

"This is a rare and exciting opportunity for people to see the Hope Diamond as it has never been seen before," said museum director Cristian Samper.

Formed more than a billion years ago, the diamond was mined in India and later is believed to have been part of the French crown jewels, having been stolen during the French Revolution. It later came into the possession of Henry Philip Hope, whose name it carries.

The Hope Diamond was long thought to have a curse, bringing bad luck to its owners, but Smithsonian officials say it has been kind to them, drawing throngs of visitors.

Michael Jackson to be buried on his birthday

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The King of Pop will be buried on what would have been his 51st birthday, a spokesman for Michael Jackson's family said Tuesday.

Jackson will be buried at a private ceremony at Forest Lawn-Glendale on Aug. 29, spokesman Ken Sunshine said in a statement. Guests will be limited to family and close friends, Sunshine said.

"The Jackson family once again wishes to express its gratitude to Michael's fans around the world for their support during these difficult times," the statement said.

Details about the ceremony and the whereabouts of Jackson's body have been tightly guarded. The announcement came a day after the New York Daily News reported comments by Jackson's father, Joe Jackson, that his son would be buried on what would have been his birthday.

Sunshine said Jackson will be buried on the Holly Terrace at the cemetery's Great Mausoleum. The cemetery's Web site describes the mausoleum as featuring replicas of works by Michelangelo. It also features a stained glass recreation of Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper."

The cemetery is located in the city of Glendale, which is about 8 miles north of downtown Los

Michael's doctor posts video

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The doctor who was with Michael Jackson when he died and is now the center of a manslaughter probe posted a short video Tuesday thanking his supporters.

In the one-minute video, posted on YouTube, a weary-looking Dr. Conrad Murray thanks friends and patients and refers to his two interviews with Los Angeles police detectives. It was the first time Murray had spoken publicly since Jackson died June 25.

"I have done all I could do," a solemn-sounding Murray says as he looks into the camera. "I told the truth and I have faith the truth will prevail."

The video was recorded last week at a private residence in Houston, said Miranda Sevcik, the spokeswoman for Murray's lawyer.

After Jackson died, Murray received death threats, hired a body guard and was forced into seclusion at his Las Vegas home, Sevcik said. He also has received many calls from patients, former patients and strangers offering him support.

"Because of all that is going on, I am afraid to return phone calls or use my e-mail," Murray says. "I recorded this video to let all of you know that I have been receiving your messages ... Your messages give



This frame grab image taken from a video posted on YouTube and made available by Sirius Video Tuesday Aug. 18, 2009 shows Michael Jackson's personal physician, Dr. Conrad Murray.

me strength and courage and keep me going. They mean the world to me."

Since Jackson's death, Murray has not worked and has closed his Las Vegas practice.

The doctor was in dire financial shape when he signed on with Jackson earlier this year at \$150,000 a month, owing at least \$780,000 in judgments and outstanding payments.

Sevcik said the only reason Murray made the video was to address supporters, but she added Murray told her he misses being able to work.

"He says he wants to get back to work, he really does genuinely care about the people he works with," Sevcik said. "He has to just wait, he's in limbo."

Angeles. It is a different location from the Hollywood Hills cemetery where Jackson's family was seen gathering days after his death on June 25.

Forest Lawn spokesman Bill Martin said the cemetery does not comment on private funeral services or on steps that might be taken to handle fans who try to show up for the burial.

"We've handled high-profile services in the past," Martin said.

He said the cemetery is on private property, and measures will be taken to discourage "loitering" on the day of Jackson's service.

Warhol's MJ portrait sold



AP This undated photo provided by the Vered Gallery in East Hampton, N.Y., shows Andy Warhol's "Michael Jackson 1984," a 30-by-26-inch painting of the pop star in a red jacket from his 1980s "Thriller" days.

EAST HAMPTON, N.Y. (AP)—A New York art gallery has sold an Andy Warhol portrait of Michael Jackson, but won't reveal the purchase price or the buyer.

The Vered Gallery in East Hampton sold the 30-by-26-inch painting showing a smiling Jackson in a red jacket from his 1980s "Thriller" days

to a buyer who requested anonymity.

The auction, which closed at 8 p.m. Tuesday, was conducted online, by phone and at the gallery. The seller is a private collector.

Gallery co-owner Janet Lehr would not disclose the final bid price, but did say it was more than a million dollars.

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MOTHERS-IN-LAW: Victoria Tudela Borja
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SISTERS, BROTHERS and SPOUSES:
Vicente S. Camacho
Susana C. and Juan S. Villagomez
Albert S. and Primitiva DLG Camacho
Mariana C. and Francisco C. DLGuerrero

SISTERS- AND BROTHERS- IN-LAW:
Daniel T. and Joaquina S. Borja
Olympio T. Borja
Victorino T. and Trinidad A. Borja
Pedro T. Borja
Felis T. Borja
Manuel T. Borja

SISTERS, BROTHERS and SPOUSES:
Estefania F. Camacho & family
Rosario A. Camacho & family
Froilan S. and Maria S. Camacho & family
Trinidad C. Borja
Margarita S. Camacho
Dr. Carlos S. and Winnie P. Camacho & family
Benita C. and Jerry Kortz & family

SISTERS- AND BROTHERS- IN-LAW:
Carmen DLG Borja & family
Concepcion B. and Joel Bernardo & family
Miriam Borja & family
Ignacia B. and Caesar Villaluz & family
Candelaria F. Borja & family
Manuel F. Borja & family
Joaquin F. Borja
Francisco F. Borja & family

Her memory will forever live in the hearts of her:

CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN AND GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN:

Guadalupe C. Borja-Robinson and John Robinson
Jesus C. and MaryAnne P. Borja
Dora B. & Paul Miura
Leticia Borja & Paul Tenorio (Jessiana)
Jesse P. and Pia G. Borja (Rubecka & Isla)
Richard P. and Ethel Borja
Amanda P. Borja
Emanuel P. Borja

Victoria B. and Anthony Voigt
Kristin V. & Dan Donegan (Colin)
Kara V. & Chuck Rice (Victoria & Sara)
Anthony Voigt & Kristina Gogliormella (Riley)

Stephen C. and Cheryl Borja
Steven, Laura and Vincent

Her body will be escorted from the Borja Funeral Home to the Mount Carmel Cathedral at 7:00 a.m. on Friday, August 21, 2009. Viewing and last respects will be at 8:00 a.m. until 9:00 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 9:30 a.m. Burial will follow immediately at the Santuario Pax in Kagman.

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers.

THE FAMILY

Mass is being offered every morning at 6:00 a.m. and Sundays at 9:00 a.m. at the Mount Carmel Cathedral.

Guitarist Les Paul to be buried in Wis. hometown

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Guitar virtuoso and inventor Les Paul will be buried Friday in his Wisconsin hometown—but not before the public gets to pay their respects in Milwaukee at a science and technology museum along the shores of Lake Michigan.

Discovery World museum President Joel Brennan said Tuesday said some of Paul's family would attend Friday's tribute and he expected many other will come to honor his life.

"We are honored to have been asked by the family to be a part of a celebration of his life," Brennan said Tuesday.

Paul died in White Plains, N.Y. on Aug. 13 of complications from pneumonia. He was 94.

A private funeral service was planned Wednesday in New York City, followed by a reception at the Gibson Showroom, according to his manager Mi-

chael K. Braunstein.

Born Lester William Polfuss in 1915 to a German immigrant family, Paul built his first crystal radio at age nine in the Milwaukee suburb of Waukesha, about the time he first picked up a guitar. In his early teens, he left home to travel with a country band.

Paul built one of the first prototypes for the solid-body electric guitar in 1941, but his work was rejected numerous times. Gibson finally began mass-producing a guitar based on his design in 1952, and the electric guitar went on to become the lead instrument in rock 'n' roll.

Friday's public viewing will be from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the museum. A private family service will be held afterward at the Prairie Home Cemetery in Waukesha, located about 15 miles west of Milwaukee, Bren-

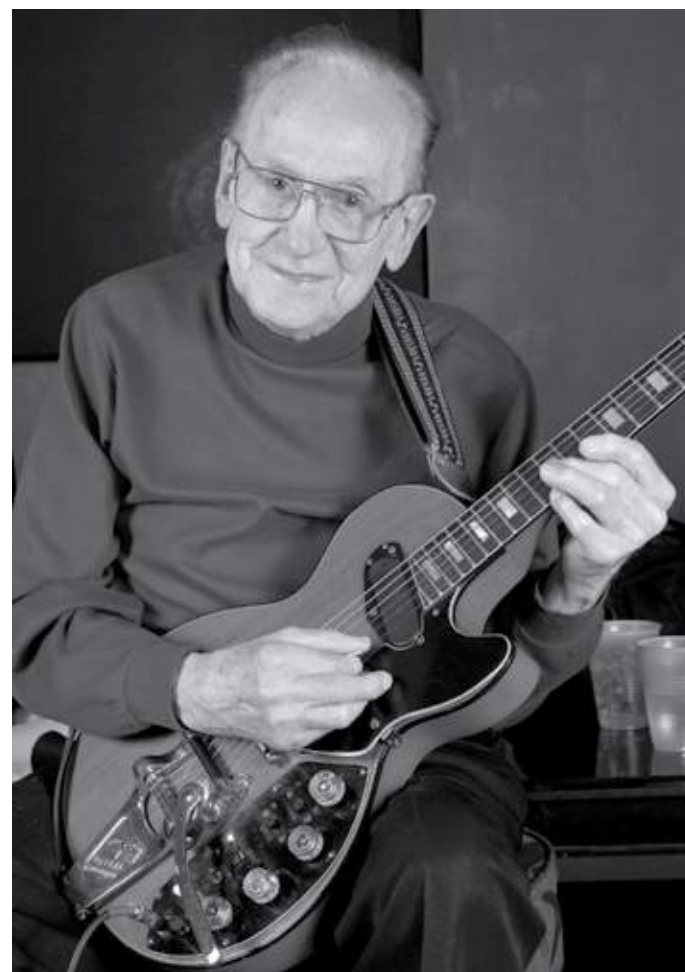
nan said.

Cemetery manager David Brenner said some of Paul's other family members are buried at the cemetery, including his mother. His plot, which will be larger, will be in another area to allow for the public to easily view it.

Discovery World's exhibit on Paul's life and contributions to music will also be free to the public Friday, Brennan said.

The museum will also on Friday show Paul's final Wisconsin concert, held at the Pabst Theater in Milwaukee last year. The guitar Paul used at his weekly gigs at the Iridium Jazz Club in New York City will also be on display, Brennan said.

In this Feb. 26, 2007 file photo, guitar legend Les Paul smiles at the Iridium Jazz Club in the Manhattan Borough of New York.



Robin Wright Penn files for divorce

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Robin Wright and her husband, Sean Penn, are calling it quits on their more than decade-long marriage.

People magazine reports that Wright filed for divorce from Penn on Aug. 12 in Marin County, California.

The magazine says Wright and Penn, who have had a tumultuous relationship, have agreed to share custody of their 16-year-old son, Hopper Jack. Court papers cite "irreconcilable differences" for the split.

A representative for Wright did not return an e-mail seeking comment.

The couple married in April 1996. The Penns have twice before filed for divorce or separation only to dismiss their petition a short time later.

Sean Penn won an Oscar for his role in "Milk" at the Academy Awards in February but did not thank his wife in his acceptance speech.

Judge in Santa Monica divides Simpson memorabilia

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP)—A California judge ordered some memorabilia returned to O.J. Simpson Tuesday, even as the football Hall of Famer sits in a Nevada prison for stealing it during a hotel room heist.

In a ruling that capped more than a year of legal wrangling, Superior Court Judge Gerald Rosenberg on Tuesday gave nine souvenir footballs and a few other items to a lawyer for Simpson nemesis Fred Goldman for auction. Goldman is trying to collect on a \$33.5 million civil judgment against Simpson.

But in another odd twist, the judge said Simpson must get the first \$6,075 from the auction.

Rosenberg said it was possible that figure would not be reached, and then Goldman would get nothing.

The most satisfied litigant was memorabilia dealer Bruce Fromong, who was able to reclaim about 600 photographs and several books that he said were taken from him during the Las Vegas hotel room confrontation on Sept. 13, 2007.

During his trial, Simpson called it a sting operation designed to recover his memorabilia, which he said had been stolen from him.

Another of the participants in the dispute was Simpson's former manager Mike Gilbert, who asked for nothing at the hearing and received nothing.

Outside of court, Gilbert bond while he appeals. Rosenberg had all of the items seized from the hotel room brought to his courtroom in cartons, which he opened and displayed. Among the items returned to Simpson were framed awards, a signed photo of him



A Los Angeles County Sheriff's deputy arranges footballs seized during a hotel heist that landed O.J. Simpson in jail, during a hearing Tuesday Aug. 18, 2009 in Santa Monica, Calif., to consider ownership of O.J. Simpson items seized by authorities.

grumbled, "I think America is tired of O.J. Simpson, tired of Fred Goldman and tired of me. I just want it over."

Because of the hotel room standoff, Simpson was sentenced to nine to 33 years for convictions on armed robbery, kidnapping and other charges. He has applied for release on

and others with former FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover and three neckties that he wore at his murder trial. Simpson also received a few souvenir footballs.

One of the men who was in the hotel room, Alfred Beardsley, was given back only the baseball hat he wore the night of the heist. He proudly put it on.

Mexico's Inarritu to head Tokyo festival jury

HONG KONG (AP) -- "Babel" director Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu will head the competition jury at the Tokyo International Film Festival in October.

Organizers named the Mexican filmmaker the jury president in a statement on their official Web site. The 21st edition of the film festival is scheduled for Oct. 18-26.

Inarritu was quoted as saying he was honored by the appointment because "Japan's culture and film traditions have had a

personal impact on me and inspire in me respect and admiration."

The former sailor and DJ made his film debut with the 2000 release "Amores Perros." The story of four Mexico City residents who cross paths in a car crash starring Gael Garcia Bernal won the Grand Prix prize at the Tokyo festival in 2000. Inarritu went on to direct the 2003 American drama "21 Grams," starring Benicio Del Toro, Sean Penn and Naomi Watts.

But the Mexican director is best known in the West for "Babel," which weaves together stories set in Morocco, the U.S.-Mexican border region and Japan. The 2006 film starring Brad Pitt, Cate Blanchett and Bernal earned Inarritu the best director award at Cannes Film Festival that year.

It also garnered six Oscar nominations, including best supporting actress for Japan's Rinko Kikuchi, but only won for best score.

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District 9
 Friday 4:05 7:10 9:50
 Saturday 1:10 4:05 7:10 9:50
 Sunday 1:10 4:05 7:10
 Mon. thru Thurs. 4:05 7:10
Sharito Copley, Jason Cope
 Sci-Fi • Rated PG R

Synopsis
 Thirty years ago, aliens made first contact with Earth. Humans waited for the hostile attack, or the giant advances in technology. Neither came. Instead, the aliens were refugees, the last survivors of their home world. The creatures were set up in a makeshift home in South Africa's District 9 as the world's nations argued over what to do with them. Now, patience over the alien situation has run out. Control over the aliens has been contracted out to Multi-National United, a private company uninterested in the aliens' welfare — they will receive tremendous profits if they can make the aliens' awesome weaponry work.

The Time Traveler's Wife
 Friday 4:20 7:05 9:35
 Saturday 1:25 4:20 7:05 9:35
 Sunday 1:25 4:20 7:05
 Mon. thru Thurs. 4:20 7:05
Rachel McAdams, Eric Bana
 Drama, Romance, Sci-Fi • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
 Clare has been in love with Henry her entire life. She believes they are destined to be together, even though she never knows when they will be separated: Henry is a time traveler—curled with a rare genetic anomaly that causes him to live his life on a shifting timeline, skipping back and forth through his lifespan with no control. Despite the fact that Henry's travels force them apart with no warning, Clare desperately tries to build a life with her one true love.

G.I. JOE
 Friday 4:30 7:25 9:40
 Saturday 1:20 4:30 7:25 9:40
 Sunday 1:20 4:30 7:25
 Mon. thru Thurs. 4:30 7:25
Dennis Quaid, Channing Tatum
 War • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
 From the Egyptian desert to deep below the polar ice caps, the elite G.I. Joe team uses the latest in next-generation spy and military equipment to fight the corrupt arms dealer Destro and the growing threat of the mysterious Cobra organization to prevent them from plunging the world into chaos.

G-Force
 Friday 4:15 7:30 9:45
 Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:30 9:45
 Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:30
 Mon. thru Thurs. 4:15 7:30
Nicolas Cage, Steve Buscemi
 Action, Animated • Rated PG

Aliens in the Attic
 Friday 4:25 7:20 9:30
 Saturday 1:30 4:25 7:20 9:30
 Sunday 1:30 4:25 7:20
 Mon. thru Thurs. 4:25 7:20
Thomas Haden Church, Carter Jenkins
 Adventure, Family • Rated PG

Harry Potter and The Half Blood Prince
 Friday 4:00 7:00 10:00
 Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00
 Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00
 Mon. thru Thurs. 4:00 7:00
Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson
 Fantasy, Adventure, Sequel • Rated PG-13

A Perfect Getaway
 Friday 4:10 7:15 9:55
 Saturday 1:05 4:10 7:15 9:55
 Sunday 1:05 4:10 7:15
 Mon. thru Thurs. 4:10 7:15
Steve Zahn, Milla Jovovich
 Thriller • Rated R

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Britney Spears shows her new figure on Letterman



In this image taken from video and provided by CBS, singer Britney Spears presents the "Top Ten Ways the Country Would Be Different if Britney Spears Were President," on the "Late Show with David Letterman," Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2009.

NEW YORK (AP)—What would a President Spears administration be like? Apparently, very tasty.

Britney Spears appeared on David Letterman's "Late Show"

on Tuesday to deliver a Top Ten list of ways the country would be different if she were president.

"Free pie for everybody," Spears declared.

For No. 10 on the list,

Spears said she'd be "the first president since Nixon to wear eye shadow."

The pop star appeared eager to show off her buff new body. She delivered the list in a bikini.

Attorney: Miley stalking suspect 'a human being'

TYBEE ISLAND, Ga. (AP)—A 53-year-old man charged with attempting to stalk "Hannah Montana" star Miley Cyrus is "a human being" struggling with grief who might need help, his defense attorney said Tuesday.

Mark McLeod of Appling appeared briefly Tuesday before a Tybee Island Municipal Court judge, who postponed a scheduled hearing in the case until next Tuesday. Outside the courtroom, his court-appointed lawyer said people shouldn't jump to conclusions that McLeod is dangerous.

"People need to understand that, really, he's a human being," attorney James Byrne told The Associated Press. "If

there's something wrong, we need to address it. He's one of our fellow citizens who might need some help."

Police on Tybee Island, 12 miles east of Savannah, arrested McLeod twice on misdemeanor charges June 22 and Aug. 4. Both times, police say, McLeod came to the island looking for 16-year-old Cyrus as she filmed a movie on the Georgia coast. Police said he told officers he was secretly engaged to the teen pop star.

He's spent the last two weeks in Chatham County jail on \$55,200 bond.

Byrne declined to say much about the case, but he said McLeod had been having a

rough time before his arrest: His mother and brother both died in the last year and a half, and that McLeod had lost his job as an assistant plumber and been unable to find work.

Prosecutors asked Judge Steven Scheer to postpone McLeod's preliminary hearing Tuesday, at which police were expected to disclose some evidence, because the lead investigator was unavailable and results were not yet complete from a police search of McLeod's home Aug. 6.

Byrne said the search warrant showed police seized some magazines and personal papers from McLeod's house. Police have previously said they also took McLeod's computer.

'Survivor' winner Richard Hatch in jail again

BOSTON (AP)—"Survivor" winner Richard Hatch is once again behind bars.

Federal officials arrested Hatch, 48, and took him to a Massachusetts county jail that's used to hold federal detainees Tuesday afternoon.

The Barnstable County Sheriff's Office didn't know why Hatch was there, and a federal Bureau of Prisons spokeswoman couldn't immediately be reached early Wednesday. It wasn't clear if Hatch has a lawyer.



Hatch

Hatch was convicted in 2006 for not paying taxes on the \$1 million prize he won on the CBS reality show's first season. He was sentenced to extra prison time for lying on the stand.

Hatch's arrest came three months after he was released into home confinement in Rhode Island and just hours after speaking publicly for the first time since he got out of federal prison.

In an interview aired on NBC's "Today" show Tuesday, Hatch said he believes the

judge in his tax evasion case discriminated against him because he's gay and accused a prosecutor of misconduct.

"I know without question that there are personal issues involved for the prosecutor. I don't know why. The prosecutorial misconduct has been egregious," he said.

In court papers filed earlier this year, Hatch complained of widespread prejudice in the justice system against gay people.

A spokesman for the U.S. Attorney's office said Hatch's claims are baseless, and in a May court filing prosecutors pointed out that

Ben Stiller stars in film for Smithsonian visitors



In this May 12, 2009 file photo, actor Ben Stiller arrives at the World film premiere of "Night at the Museum 2", in London.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Following his second "Night at the Museum," Ben Stiller is leaving a legacy at the Smithsonian Institution.

The star of "Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian" is now also starring in a new orientation film for the museums on the National Mall.

On Tuesday, the Smithsonian announced it has begun showing the 10-minute film continuously in the Smithsonian Castle visitors center.

Stiller shows off some of the millions of objects on view in Washington, including the Hope Diamond and Dorothy's ruby slippers from "The Wizard of Oz."

The film also highlights research and conservation efforts at the National Zoo and the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama.

This summer's "Night at the Museum" is a sequel to a 2006 film.

Hatch offered no evidence to support a claim that he was prosecuted because he is gay.

Former U.S. Attorney Robert Clark Corrente—whose office oversaw the case—told WPRO-AM that Hatch is "delusional." The judge in the case is now retired and could not immediately be reached for comment.

Hatch is due to be released from home confinement on Oct. 7, but he has asked a judge to release him immediately for a variety of reasons, including because he was represented by ineffective lawyers.

He told the "Today" show that he has been financially devastated by his tax case.

Cutting her apron strings is painful for mother and son

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I am a recent high school graduate who is starting college soon. I am blessed to be part of a great family. The problem is, my mother is TOO good. She has always been kind and loving, but she insists on doing everything for me.

I consider myself to be independent, but she is constantly finding some way to "help." When I tell her I need some space to grow, she cries. I love my mother dearly, but how can I convey to her that I'm a big boy now without hurting her feelings?

GROWN UP ON THE EAST COAST

DEAR GROWN UP: Your mother appears to be suffering from a common condition known as "Impending Empty Nest Syndrome." It's a form of anxiety and depression that often hits parents when a child is about to leave home and no longer needs the constant parenting that has been the norm for the prior 18 years.

The behavior you're reacting to is called hovering. Your mother may be doing it because she's savoring every last bit of mothering she can get in before you fly off to ever-increasing independence. Please be patient with her because in another month you'll be out of there and she will be starting to adapt.

DEAR ABBY: God bless you! You've done it again. In 2001, American Ex-Prisoners of War got 600-plus responses to your printing our POW VA benefit alert in your column. You helped many former POWs and their widows get the VA benefits due them.

As of today, your July 18, 2009, column about benefits available to widows of veterans who died of ALS has generated more than 2,000 e-mails and many letters and phone calls! I will be plowing through all these e-mails for weeks to come, but I'm afraid people will be waiting too long for my responses.

That's why I'm asking you to please help me again by letting your readers know that if their veteran husband died of ALS, they should call the Department of Veterans Affairs at (800) 827-1000. This will get them to their nearest VA regional office. They should ask to speak with a service officer about their ALS claim for COMPENSATION, not pension. This will expedite the claim process.

Abby, thank you for reaching out to veterans with their service-connected health issues. God is blessing many through your unique column.

FRED CAMPBELL, AMERICAN
EX-PRISONERS OF WAR

DEAR FRED: I'm delighted that my July 18 column will help so many—and I hope today's column will, too. Readers, please pay attention to this "heads up" because Fred is swamped!

DEAR ABBY: Is it considered adultery if a husband encourages his wife to sleep with other men? My husband enjoys the idea of me sleeping with other men and then telling him about it. I don't understand his fascination, but that's what he likes. I am more concerned about the morality issue. What do you think?

ADULTERESS? IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR ADULTERESS?: Because you're concerned with "the morality issue," I assume you come from a traditional upbringing in which you were taught that sex is a sacred bond between husband and wife. Far more important than what I think is what YOU think about it. So call a moratorium for now, start thinking—and then follow your conscience.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



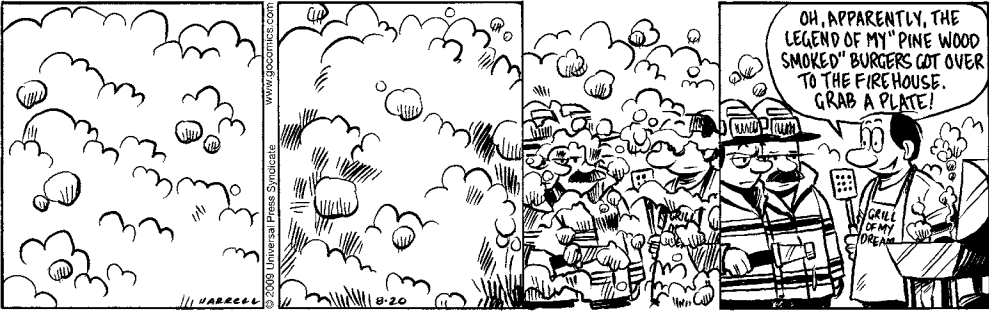
By Bill Waterson

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ACROSS

1 Lady of the Haus
5 Channel marker
9 To the — degree
12 Deserve
13 Nabisco product
14 Playwright Levin
15 Victoria Beckham, e.g.
17 Snip
18 Plays for time
19 Strike zone's lower boundary
21 Exist
22 Sits for the paparazzi
24 Joker, e.g.
27 Scepter topper
28 Horse's halter?
31 Kyoto cummerbund
32 Pirouette pivot
33 Resistance measure
34 Wear a rut in the rug

DOWN

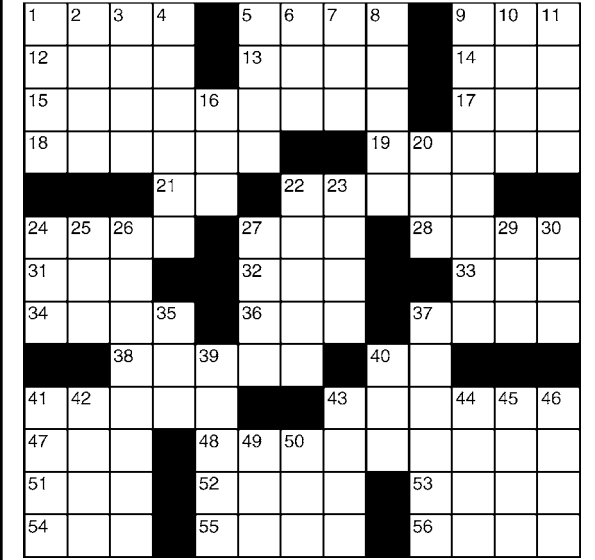
1 Parker climber
37 What 28-Across means
38 Obliterate
40 Tagged player
41 Sunrises
43 With hands on hips
47 —
48 Trite
51 Director Howard
52 Affluent
53 Gunk
54 Ball-bearing item
55 Curved molding
56 His and —

20 Just out
22 Verify
23 Do as you're told
24 Officer Daba
25 "The — Honey-moon"
26 Sake
27 Elevator name
29 "Looky here!"
30 Pump up the volume
35 Sea eagle
37 Sew
39 Jetsons' dog
40 Eisenhower
41 Pub missile
42 Lotion additive
43 Rue the run
44 Oliver's request
45 Astigmatism factor
46 Probability
49 False hood?
50 Capades venue

Solution time: 25 mins.

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Yesterday's answer 8-20



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Demi Lovato, 17; Fred Durst, 39; James Marsters, 47; Al Roker, 55

Happy Birthday: Your charm, grace and ability to turn nothing into something will help you see your way to victory this year. You can accomplish so much more by keeping your plans small, precise and fine-tuned. Change is upon you and, if you work diligently, you will celebrate great success. Open your heart to those who are dependent on you. Your numbers are 1, 7, 14, 20, 27, 36, 47

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Be observant. Sometimes the people most charismatic are not the real deal. Judge by what's done, not by what's promised. Don't let a love matter hold you back. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Your ability to control a situation will be impressive but could upset someone who has been trying to pull a fast one on you. You will outperform any competition you face. Love is in the stars. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): If you look like you know what you are doing, people will give you the benefit of a doubt, allowing you enough time to figure things out. Make some personal changes that help your outlook and add to the comfort of your home. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A unique way of handling matters that influence your home and family will put you in the spotlight. A power play that can influence your future professionally must be put into play. Believe in yourself. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't sit back when action is required. Emotional issues stemming from past experiences will arise. Utilize what you learned in order to come out on top now. Don't argue. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Dig deep and find out all you can about a situation that can affect your future. Someone will withhold information or try to mislead you. Back away from anyone around whom you don't feel comfortable. Time is on your side. ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Open your mind to an unusual but interesting opportunity. Take precautions while traveling; mishaps will occur if you are preoccupied with the events that interest you. Your intuition regarding someone from your past will be correct. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't let anyone take over or push you in a direction that doesn't suit you. A bold attack on whatever project or pursuit you have in mind will draw interest and help you get things moving. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Stay on top of matters by checking in to see what everyone else is up to. If you lose sight of your goals, no one else will pick up where you left off. Emotional upset can be expected if you haven't been completely honest about the way you feel. Stop running. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You can kick start a project or idea you have with a little extra effort and a last-minute

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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change. Your ability to coordinate and delegate will come in handy and make you look like a hero. You need a change of location or a forum to launch your plans. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Pay more attention to what you say, what you do and with whom you associate. Someone is likely to call your bluff. Put your energy into something worthwhile that allows you to grow mentally, personally and emotionally. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Watch your back. Someone you think you can trust may not have your best interests at heart. Be ready to fight back. It's better to start over than to give up too much. An emotional encounter must not stop you from following your own path. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are aggressive and have charm and originality. You refuse to settle for anything less than what you want. You are a strong competitor.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

9				1				
	2			6	5	9		
		7		8		3		
					9	1		
1			6					4
	7	3						
	8		5		3			
	9	2	4			6		
				9				5

Difficulty Level ★★★

8/20

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	8	6	5	1	4	2	7	3
7	1	3	8	6	2	5	4	9
5	2	4	3	7	9	1	6	8
3	7	9	6	4	5	8	2	1
1	6	8	2	9	3	7	5	4
2	4	5	7	8	1	3	9	6
6	3	7	9	2	8	4	1	5
4	5	2	1	3	6	9	8	7
8	9	1	4	5	7	6	3	2

WONDERWORD® By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

LEICA CAMERAS Solution: 6 letters

L X M E T S Y S O E G L A S S
E A E L E L V S A D V A N C E
X E C L E S K F P C R L R A I
I A G I F A D C O E O E E N R
P N T A R O T A A C E L T N E
A Z F L M E S H E N U D O E S
G I T R O I H I E R R S S R M
E L C R A N K P V R H A S H N
M L A T E M I G S U U T B S O
C A P T U R E M T A Y L L A I
A C M D I R E T I L T O Y L T
M I O I M G E D E R O O D F I
E T C A A R I S I T R K O I S
R P N L W I N D O W L O B L O
A O P H O T O G R A P H R M P

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09-034	Trades Technician (Operator), PG, Saipan 6 positions	\$17,282 - \$23,115	8/19/2009 - 9/02/2009
09-035	Trades Technician (Mechanic), PG, Saipan 6 positions	\$17,282 - \$23,115	8/19/2009 - 9/02/2009
09-036	Trades Technician (Machinist), PG, Saipan 2 positions	\$17,282 - \$23,115	8/19/2009 - 9/02/2009
09-037	Trades Technician (Welder), PG, Saipan 2 positions	\$17,282 - \$23,115	8/19/2009 - 9/02/2009
09-038	Communication Operator, Control, Saipan 3 positions	\$12,263 - \$17,781	8/19/2009 - 8/25/2009

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Favre coming back with Vikings



Quarterback Brett Favre smiles as he holds up a Minnesota Vikings jersey during a news conference at the NFL football team's training facility Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2009, in Eden Prairie, Minn. From left are coach Brad Childress, team president Mark Wilf, and owner Zygi Wilf. AP



EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. (AP)—Brett Favre unretired again and will be wearing purple this time. Chew on that, cheeseheads.

Pulling an about-face on his playing status for the second straight summer, the three-time VP quarterback will suit up for his old rival Minnesota starting with Friday's preseason game at the Metrodome. The goal: help the Vikings win that elusive first Super Bowl.

"You need to cross over that line. You need to take that chance," Favre said at his introductory news conference Tuesday, recalling the advice Minnesota coach Brad Childress gave him. "At 39 years old, your arm may not feel like it did at 21, but the pieces are in place here where you don't have to do as much."

He added: "If they were willing to take that chance, I was, too."

The wait for Favre's decision dragged through May, June and July—at which point he said he would stay retired. But that was three weeks ago. On Tuesday, it all was resolved in a matter of hours.

Team owner Zygi Wilf and president Mark Wilf met Favre in Mississippi with their private plane, Childress himself picked him up at the St. Paul airport, and a news helicopter hovered over their route to the team's suburban practice facility in Eden Prairie.

Once the vehicles arrived, hundreds of fans roared when Favre waved as he got out. No less than 90 minutes later, he was on the field in his familiar No. 4 jersey with purple shorts and a purple helmet, a vision that has had Packers fans cringing about for months.

He shook hands with a few of his new teammates and quickly began

throwing, as people peeked through the security fence to catch a glimpse of the stubble-faced superstar.

"I think it's great for football," Favre said. "I can't see how you think it wouldn't be."

On July 28, the man who holds every major NFL career passing record told Childress he wasn't ready to play, citing a lack of confidence in his beat-up body to hold up over an entire season. Favre revealed Tuesday that he was told by Dr. James Andrews, who performed the arthroscopic surgery on his throwing shoulder in May, that he's been playing with a torn rotator cuff for a few years.

Neither Favre nor the Vikings expressed any concern about his health, though, on this whirlwind day. Favre was defiant, actually, when asked about widespread criticism of his flip-flopping.

"Don't watch, you know?" he said, adding: "My legacy, it's mine. It's what I think of it."

Wearing a ratty red baseball cap and a T-shirt, Favre's eyes reddened when he talk about letting his daughter down last month with his decision to stay retired.

Favre also brushed off suggestions he's driven by revenge on the Packers, who wouldn't let him have his old job back last summer when he reconsidered. Green Bay visits Minnesota on Oct. 5, and the Packers host the Vikings on Nov. 1.

"The bottom line is it's football," Favre said. "Once you step into the huddle, I don't look at the helmets. I look at the faces."

The Vikings did not release terms of the deal. ESPN, citing anonymous sources, said Favre would receive \$12 million this season and \$13 million

next season.

Last month, Favre explained his decision by saying he had to be "careful not to commit for the wrong reasons."

"I'm 39 with a lot of sacks to my name," he said.

He has a lot of interceptions to his name, too, more than any other quarterback in NFL history. The last time Favre appeared in the playoffs—a bitter loss at Lambeau Field by the Packers to the Giants in the NFC championship game following the 2007 season—he put up one of his worst performances in recent memory.

Now the question becomes how Favre will fit in with a team that's already done with the grind of training camp, not to mention how his health will hold up so soon after he questioned it.

The Vikings got an encouraging performance in their preseason opener last week from quarterback Sage Rosenfels, who has been competing with Tarvaris Jackson for the starting job. But neither of them have been consistently sharp in practice this month.

And neither can compete with Favre's ability or resume. His zinger of an arm and toughness in the pocket are a combination few possess. With an offense he claimed this summer he could operate in his sleep, Favre seems to fit well with Minnesota—especially given the Vikings' problems finding a reliable quarterback since Childress took over in 2006.

"This is a fluid business, and we were moving ahead but you always go back and reassess," Childress said, explaining his own reverse in direction.

The coach added: "The guys will learn him. He'll learn them, and we've got a whole month to put this thing together."

The Vikings have Pro Bowl play-

ers all over their roster, with reigning NFL rushing leader Adrian Peterson in the backfield and a dominant defensive line. No matter who's behind center, they ought to be in position to defend their NFC North title.

To win the conference, and perhaps—finally—a Super Bowl, they'll need stability at the sport's most critical position.

Favre has wrestled with retirement for most of this decade and the will-he-or-won't-he saga became an annual offseason drama for the Packers, his longtime home. In Green Bay, the latest news elicited a few shrugs, little more.

A few months after Favre's tearful goodbye news conference in March 2008, Green Bay traded him to the Jets after he tried to come back only to learn the Packers were committed to Aaron Rodgers. Favre started strong in New York, but faded down the stretch amid problems with his throwing arm and, with another "I'm done" announcement, headed for his second retirement.

The Jets released him from his contract right after the draft and soon after, the Vikings were openly expressing interest. Favre spent the summer working out in Mississippi and led everyone to believe he was on his way back to the NFL until last month.

Now, he is back.

"I don't have any problem rooting for one of the greatest quarterbacks ever," said Phil Setala, a 23-year-old from Minneapolis who was at practice proudly wearing a purple No. 4 jersey.

Even the governor chimed in.

"It's going to be good for the team," a giddy Gov. Tim Pawlenty said after a speech. "It's going to be good for the state. It's going to be exciting."

NFL investigating reports of Raiders coach scuffle

NAPA, Calif. (AP)—Tom Cable went on the defensive Tuesday and the NFL said it would investigate reports that the Oakland Raiders coach got into a fight that sent one of his assistants to the hospital.

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said the league is looking into the situation to try to determine the facts of what happened.

A day after calling it "an internal issue that we are dealing with," Cable denied anything transpired at all with defensive assistant Randy Hanson earlier this month. Cable allegedly punched Hanson in the jaw.

"Nothing happened," Cable told a large swarm of reporters Tuesday when asked about it following a joint practice with the San Francisco 49ers. "Listen, you want to talk about this football team and the players on this football team, I'll talk all day. Otherwise, I'm not getting into it."

A report filed with the Napa Police Department describes an unnamed 41-year-old Raiders assistant coach being treated at the Queen of the Valley Hospital for a jaw injury, which the victim alleges was caused by an unidentified member of the Raiders coaching staff on Aug. 5.

AOL Fanhouse reported that Cable was the coach who caused the injury.

Cable also declined to comment on the NFL investigation.

"I respect that," Cable said when told it was only fair to give him chance to respond. "You have to respect I want to talk about my team."

And his team really didn't want to talk about him, either. Cable hasn't told the players anything.

"That's for you guys to talk about. I have no idea what happened, if anything happened. I could really care less," left guard Robert Gallery said. "I worry about winning games. Until you know or the truth comes out, rumors can get spread real fast. You could start one now and it could change tomorrow."

The Raiders are used to this—constant drama, controversy, potential distractions.

Lane Kiffin, Cable's predecessor, was fired last September for cause after what owner Al Davis described as acts of insubordination and lying. Kiffin filed a grievance and is seeking two months pay for the time he was unemployed before being hired at the University of Tennessee.

The Raiders sent a letter to Tennessee in January, explaining how they believe Kiffin breached his contract, violated NFL rules and was insubordinate despite warnings from Davis.

Cable replaced Kiffin four games into the 2008 season.

In 2003, Raiders linebacker Bill Romanowski punched teammate Marcus Williams during practice, shattering Williams' jaw. Williams later filed a civil lawsuit and was awarded \$340,000 in damages.

Also, there was former coach Bill Callahan calling his players "the dumbest team in America" in 2003, Randy Moss quitting on his team during his two-year stint in Oakland, and former coach Art Shell benching and then suspending receiver Jerry Porter for insubordination.



TORONTO
(AP)—David Ortiz homered and scored three times, including the go-ahead run in the eighth inning, as the Boston Red Sox beat the Toronto Blue Jays 10-9 in the American League on Tuesday.

Jason Bay also homered for the Red Sox, while left-hander Hideki Okajima (4-0) pitched one perfect inning for the win.

Marco Scutaro hit a two-run single off Jonathan Papelbon in the eighth but the Boston closer got Adam Lind to fly out to the warning track in left, leaving the bases loaded.

Papelbon pitched around a leadoff single and a two-out walk in the ninth to earn his 29th save.

With the score tied 7-all, Ortiz walked to begin the eighth and took second on Nick Green's single. Alex Gonzalez bunted back to the mound but Casey Janssen (2-4) bobbled the ball, then threw wildly to first, allowing Ortiz to score.

Jacoby Ellsbury followed with a sacrifice fly and, one out later, Victor Martinez added an RBI double.

Tigers 5, Mariners 3

At Detroit, Miguel Cabrera hit a go-ahead, two-run single in the eighth inning and Rick Porcello had a career-high eight strikeouts as Detroit beat Seattle.

Seattle starter Felix Hernandez left after he struck out nine and gave up only a run through seven innings because of a hamstring cramp.

Alex Avila hit the second pitch from reliever Mark Lowe (1-6) over the fence to pull the Tigers within one and pinch-hitter Ramon Santiago followed with a single.

Seattle shortstop Josh Wilson was charged with an error on a one-out chopper by Placido Polanco and Carlos Guillen drew a walk to load the bases, setting up Cabrera's clutch hit.

Angels 5, Indians 4

At Cleveland, Trevor Bell got his first major league win, helping Los Angeles beat Cleveland for its to its fourth straight victory.

Bell (1-0) gave up three runs and nine hits over 5 1-3 innings in the second start of his career. Brian Fuentes, the Angels' fourth pitcher, worked a perfect ninth for his 35th save, tying Mariano Rivera of the New York Yankees for the AL lead.

Vladimir Guerrero had three hits for Los Angeles, which leads the AL West and has won seven of eight. The Angels have scored 65 runs during that

Ortiz lifts Red Sox past Jays

span and all nine hitters in their starting lineup Tuesday are batting over .300 for the season.

Rays 5, Orioles 4

At St. Petersburg, Florida, Gabe Gross hit a two-run homer, and Pat Burrell and B.J. Upton added solo shots to lead Tampa Bay past Baltimore

Gross gave Tampa Bay a 3-2 lead with his fourth-inning drive. Burrell and Upton homered in the sixth to make it 5-2.

Gross homered for the first time since July 22, and has two homers in his last 33 games. Upton's last homer came on June 30, and the center fielder has eight RBIs over his past 38 games.

Yankees 7, Athletics 2

At Oakland, Derek Jeter had his

two-run shot in the seventh inning to help Minnesota spoil Ivan Rodriguez's return to Texas.

Young also had a tying two-run double for the Twins, who piled up 12 hits and eight runs in the sixth, seventh and eighth innings as part of their rally from a 5-0 deficit.

The Rangers, who acquired their former All-Star catcher earlier Tuesday in a trade with Houston, dropped into a tie with Boston for the AL wild-card lead.

Royals 5, White Sox 4

At Chicago, Kansas City's Billy Butler doubled three times, had two RBIs and scored the go-ahead run on Alberto Callaspo's fifth-inning single.

In losing to last-place Kansas City for the seventh time this season, the

A 66-minute rain delay ruined Martinez's home debut with the Phillies. The three-time Cy Young Award winner allowed one run in three innings in his second start since returning to the majors. He struck out three and retired the last eight batters he faced, but left after the long delay.

Marlins 6, Astros 2

At Houston, Ricky Nolasco struck out 10 in his second complete game of the season as Florida had 10 hits for the 14th consecutive game.

Dan Uggla, Jorge Cantu and Jeremy Hermida hit solo homers for the Marlins, who have won nine of 11.

Mets 9, Braves 4

At New York, Gary Sheffield dou-

eighth inning to beat Washington.

Brad Hawpe and Clint Barmes also homered for Colorado, which leads the NL wild-card race. Ubaldo Jimenez (11-9) went eight innings to win his fifth consecutive decision, allowing two runs and seven hits.

Pirates 5, Brewers 2

At Pittsburgh, Ross Ohlendorf allowed one run over seven-plus innings, and Delwyn Young and Lastings Milledge homered in Pittsburgh's win over Milwaukee.

Garret Jones had two hits and scored twice and Andy LaRoche was on base four times with a run and an RBI for Pittsburgh, which won for the fifth time since July 24.

Ohlendorf (11-8) has three of those victories and is 4-1 with a 2.72 ERA since the All-Star break.

Giants 8, Reds 5, 10 innings

At Cincinnati, Ryan Garko's two-run double in the 10th inning completed San Francisco's comeback from a four-run deficit to beat Cincinnati.

With Pablo Sandoval on second and Randy Winn on first, Garko hit a line drive up the left-center field gap off Francisco Cordero (1-3). He finished with four RBIs, as many as he had in his first 17 games after being acquired by San Francisco from Cleveland on July 27.

Dodgers 7, Cards 3

At Los Angeles, Billingsley yielded three hits over six strong innings and added an RBI single in the Los Angeles Dodgers' 7-3 victory over St. Louis on Tuesday night, snapping the Cardinals' five-game winning streak in a meeting of first-place clubs.

Andre Ethier went 3 for 4 with a triple and a late run-scoring double for the Dodgers, who improved the NL's best record to 71-49 with just their fourth win in 11 games.

Padres 6, Cubs 3

At San Diego, rookie Kyle Blanks hit a two-run inside the park homer, and rookie Cesar Carrillo earned his first major league victory in the San Diego Padres' 6-3 win over the Chicago Cubs on Tuesday night.

Blanks, who hit a three-run homer in the bottom of the ninth in Monday's 4-1 win over the Cubs, hit a ball off the top of the wall in center in the eighth that ricocheted to right-center. The 6-foot-6, 285-pound Blanks easily beat the throw home with a headfirst slide for his eighth homer.



Boston Red Sox's David Ortiz, left, slides safely past Toronto Blue Jays catcher Rod Barajas to score on an RBI double by Alex Gonzalez during the second inning of a baseball game in Toronto on Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2009.

third straight three-hit game and also knocked in the go-ahead run to help CC Sabathia win for the first time in six years in Oakland in the New York Yankees' 7-2 victory over the Athletics on Tuesday night.

Jeter's RBI single in the sixth inning against Jay Marshall (0-1) broke a 2-all tie and the Yankees went on to add four more runs that inning to snap a two-game losing streak.

Twins 9, Rangers 6

At Arlington, Joe Mauer homered twice and Delmon Young hit a tiebreaking

White Sox fell three games behind Detroit in the AL Central.

Robinson Tejada pitched three dominant innings of relief and John Buck hit a two-run homer for the Royals, who are 7-7 against the White Sox—and 40-65 against the rest of the major leagues.

Phillies 5, Diamondback 1

At Philadelphia, Jamie Moyer pitched six scoreless innings in relief of Pedro Martinez, who took his spot in the starting rotation, as the Philadelphia Phillies beat the Arizona Diamondbacks 5-1 in the National League on Tuesday.

bled twice in an eight-run fourth inning as New York battered Atlanta's Derek Lowe.

Luis Castillo had two hits and two RBIs during the big outburst off Lowe (12-8), who squandered a 4-0 lead against New York's injury-depleted lineup. The Mets pounded out 10 hits in the fourth, setting a franchise record for one inning.

Rockies 4, Nationals 3

At Washington, Colorado's Carlos Gonzalez homered for the third consecutive game, breaking a tie in the

MLB BRIEFS

'Pudge' returns to Rangers in trade with Astros

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Ivan Rodriguez is coming home to the Texas Rangers. The 14-time All-Star catcher who started his career with the Rangers at age 19 was acquired in a trade Tuesday with the Houston Astros for minor league pitcher Matt Nevarez and two players to be named. "It's been a long time," said Rodriguez, who was with the Rangers from 1991-2002. "I'm glad that I'm back." The 37-year-old Rodriguez signed a one-year, \$1.5 million contract with

the Astros in March and went on to hit .251 with eight home runs and 34 RBIs in 93 games. But the Astros have faded in the NL playoff chase, while the Rangers went into Tuesday night's game against Minnesota with a one-game lead in the AL wild-card race. The trade surprised Rodriguez and the Astros. "You trade away your starting catcher, it could send mixed messages," Houston infielder Geoff Blum said. "This time of year is when you're looking to make additions, if you feel your team is close enough. We didn't do that. We chose to make a subtraction."

'Unlikely' Strasburg will pitch for Nats in '09

WASHINGTON (AP)—Long-standing Washington Nationals "face of the franchise" Ryan Zimmerman was in the home clubhouse before Tuesday's game, fielding question after question about newly signed No. 1 draft pick Stephen Strasburg. A few feet away, wise-cracking teammate Josh Bard yelled over: "Did you hear? Strasburg's going to start tomorrow. And he's throwing every game the rest of the homestand." Moving the joke along, Zimmerman replied: "Yeah, he's going to start AND close." OK, OK, we get it. Strasburg is

a special prospect, one who commanded a record-breaking contract from Washington worth a guaranteed \$15.1 million over four years in negotiations that closed about a minute before Monday night's deadline.

Dodgers' Kuroda likely headed for DL

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Dodgers right-hander Hiroki Kuroda probably will be placed on Los Angeles' disabled list while he recovers from a concussion, manager Joe Torre said Tuesday. Kuroda, who was hit in the head by a line drive in Arizona last weekend, had

another CT scan and additional tests Tuesday while visiting Dr. Vernon Williams, a Los Angeles neurologist specializing in concussions. The Japanese pitcher felt about the same as he did Monday, when Dodgers trainer Stan Conte reported Kuroda still had mild headaches. Conte again sent Kuroda home from Dodger Stadium early to rest, also advising him to turn off his phone to limit the numerous calls from concerned family and friends in Japan. "This is really going to be a day-to-day thing," Conte said. "This can clear up overnight, or it could linger. We're just going to have to wait day to day."

Venus upset in U.S. Open warm-up

Venus Williams of the United States, reacts during her 1-6, 7-5, 6-4 loss to Kateryna Bondarenko of the Ukraine during the Rogers Cup tennis tournament in Toronto on Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2009.

AP



TORONTO (AP)—Venus Williams' tuneup for the U.S. Open hit

a surprising roadblock Tuesday with a 1-6, 7-5, 6-4 loss to Ukraine's Kateryna Bondarenko in the second round of the Rogers Cup.

Williams, seeded third, lost to an opponent ranked No. 64. Williams was playing at this tournament for the first time since 1997 when she was 17. She has lost all three of her matches at the Rogers Cup.

"I was definitely expecting to play well and to go very far in the tournament," Williams said. "I've got a lot of fans here, so it's disappointing."

Bondarenko will play Agnes Szavay of Hungary or Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland in the third round.

"I was playing really good," Bondarenko said. "The first set, I didn't know what to do with her power. The rest of the game, I just tried to keep the ball in play."

Williams tried to find some consolation in the defeat, with the U.S. Open starting Aug. 31.

"I have to take it as a positive," she said. "Now it'll give me a chance to rest. It's been a really busy summer for me."

Williams controlled the first set but couldn't shake Bondarenko, who chased down shot after shot in stifling Rexall Centre. Bondarenko broke Williams three times in the second set and once more in the third. She won 20 of 28 service points in the deciding set.

"She played well," Williams said. "She really started playing consistently. Unfortunately I made too many errors. I would have liked to play a cleaner match."

Bondarenko initially said it was "just another match," but quickly changed her mind.

"It's big because it was against Venus," she said, adding she now feels she can beat anyone if she can defeat an opponent of this stature.

Kim Clijsters cruised past Elena Baltacha 6-3, 6-4, advancing in her second tournament since taking more than two years off to have a child. In the late match, Samantha Stosur No. 6 seed Svetlana Kuznetsova 6-4, 6-3.

Ana Ivanovic rallied past Magdalena Rybarikova of Slovakia for a 2-6, 6-3, 6-2 triumph. Ivanovic, seeking her first WTA Tour title of the season, had seven double-faults against Rybarikova, ranked No. 47.

"I was trying to play a little too safe, I think," said Ivanovic, who will meet Lucie Safarova of the Czech Repub-

lic in the second round. "She's a good player, and she was playing really aggressive and dominant."

Safarova advanced with a 6-4, 7-6 (3) win over Kaia Kanepi.

Also, Dominika Cibulkova beat Sara Errani 6-4, 6-2, Shahar Peer of Israel downed Monica Niculescu of Romania 6-4, 4-6, 7-6 (4) in just under three

hours; Virginie Razzano of France defeated Ekaterina Makarova of Russia 6-7 (3), 6-0, 6-2; Zheng Jie of China downed Elena Vesnina of Russia 6-3, 6-2; Alla Kudryavtseva of Russia beat Julie Coin of France 6-2, 1-6, 7-6 (8); Yaroslava Shvedova of Kazakhstan earned a 7-6 (1), 7-6 (4) win over Daniela Hantuchova of Slovakia.

Obama to appear in back-to-school program

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama will appear in a back-to-school television special with singer Kelly Clarkson and basketball star LeBron James next month.

Obama is appearing in a 30-minute documentary that will air at 8 p.m. Sept. 8 on BET, MTV, VH1, CMT, Comedy Central, Spike TV and Nickelodeon, all of them Viacom networks.

In the program, the president says education is the key to people living out their dreams.

"So as this new school year begins, I urge you to set goals for your own education: to study hard and get involved in your school, to try new things and find something you're passionate about," Obama says, according to a release issued Wednesday.

"And that's how our nation will get ahead—by ensuring that every American gets a world-class education, from preschool to college to a career," Obama said.



Obama



Lebron

The program marks the kickoff of an education initiative by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Viacom Inc. Called "Get Schooled," the five-year campaign is aimed at improving this country's dismal high school and college completion rates.

In the special, Obama, Clarkson and James all are shown alongside behind-the-scenes colleagues; Obama's is speechwriter Sarah Hurwitz, who talks about her time in school and current job at the White House. Also featured are Clarkson's music director, Jason Halbert, and James' marketer, Latesha Williams.

Gates official Allan Golston, president of the foundation's U.S. Program, noted Obama has made education a top priority and that schools got unprecedented money from the economic stimulus law earlier this year.

"Education is the key to opportunity and economic progress, for our young people and our nation," Golston said.

NBA BRIEFS

Knicks' Robinson arrested, had suspended license

NEW YORK (AP)—New York Knicks player Nate Robinson was arrested Tuesday for driving without a license. Police said Robinson was arrested after officers pulled him over in the Bronx at about 5:30 p.m. and discovered he had a suspended license. The Knicks guard was taken to the 52nd Precinct and charged with aggravated unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and issued a summons to return to court at a later date, police said. A Knicks spokesman said they were aware of the situation and would discuss it with Robinson directly. Robinson is a restricted free agent, meaning the Knicks can match any offer he receives from another team. The club has said it hopes to keep the popular guard at the right price. Robinson was in New York to work at a basketball camp. In a series of postings on his Twitter page late Tuesday night, he apologized to the Knicks, his family and his fans, and thanked the police.

Melo sues former business manager

DENVER (AP)—Carmelo Anthony (notes) is suing his former business manager, alleging he misappropriated more than \$2 million of the Denver Nuggets star's assets. The lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court in Sacramento, Calif., on Monday, alleges that Anthony's former business manager, Larry W. Harmon, and employees of Larry Harmon & Associates P.A., breached

their fiduciary duties by transferring \$1.75 million of Anthony's money without his knowledge or consent to a company formed by Harmon, most of it in 2008. Another \$265,500 was discovered to have been invested in third parties without Anthony's knowledge or consent between 2005 and 2008, according to the lawsuit, which seeks recovery of the approximately \$2 million, plus punitive damages.

Butler expected to help Clippers address weakness

PLAYA VISTA, Calif. (AP)—Clippers general manager and head coach Mike Dunleavy is confident the addition of swingman Rasual Butler will help address one of the team's biggest weaknesses—outside shooting. The Clippers ranked 23rd in the league in 3-point shooting percentage last season. They acquired the 6-7 Butler and cash last Wednesday from the New Orleans Hornets in exchange for a conditional second-round pick in 2016. Butler averaged career highs in points with 11.2 per game and rebounds with 3.3 per game last season for the Hornets. He shot 39 percent from behind the arc during the regular season and made 52.6 percent of his 3-pointers in five playoff games. "We thought a guy with his length can play multiple positions," Dunleavy said Monday at the team's practice facility. "He can shoot the ball well from outside and is a good fit for our team."

Thunder's overhauled arena awaits final touches



OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Less than two months before it is to be unveiled to Oklahoma City Thunder players and their fans, the Ford Center's overhauled interior sits waiting like a present ready to be unwrapped.

Under thin layers of plastic wrap and paper are the new toys being bought with millions of dollars in tax money: rows of new leather seats near court-side, hardwood floors and stainless steel appliances in the suites, and tiles to line the walls of a lush court-side club.

Although plenty of work remains, members of a city committee got to see for the first time Tuesday the progress that has been made since the arena was closed after the NBA season ended in April.

"It's fun to see it develop," said Tom Anderson, the city's special projects manager.

Already hanging from the ceiling is the enormous new scoreboard that stands several stories tall, and crews are working two 10-hour shifts six days a week to complete the rest of the work by an October deadline.

Many of the upgraded retractable seats have been installed on the floor level, still under plastic. Plywood out-

lines show where 48 new terrace suites will be built on the club level. The suites, with four to six seats apiece, are aimed at customers who aren't ready to make the leap to a full luxury suite but want a little something more out of their night at the game.

The club suites themselves have been gutted and redone, with sheets of paper protecting the new carpeting and hardwood floors from the dust being kicked up by workers.

There's also the framework for the addition of bunker suites on the ground and entry levels, for groups wanting a private room in the regular seating bowl. Those who gain access to the court-side club will find a 103-inch television set and a fireplace the size of a small car.

Even the upper deck is getting a facelift. The concourse floors have a new glossy treatment, and new lighting is planned to brighten up the area.

Most of the structural changes to the building have been done, and city officials believe most of the finishing touches will be done in time for an Oct. 3 Kings of Leon concert, the first event to be held in the remodeled arena. The first Thunder preseason game is nine days later.

"I'm real comfortable with the prog-

ress and the scheduling, and I'm very comfortable that we'll get done in time," Anderson said.

Sales tax collections continue to be behind schedule for the \$100 million renovation project. The figures for July were \$1.1 million below projections, for a total shortfall of \$5.4 million just less than halfway into the 15-month tax collection period.

However, an accompanying practice facility has started out well below budget and the city hopes the two projects can combine to match the tax collections.

This summer's construction is the second of three phases in the total Ford Center renovation, which was promised before the franchise moved from Seattle. It also includes a larger, half-oval shaped locker room featuring 10-foot tall doorways for the Thunder adjoining a players' lounge, medical treatment area and interview room. There's also a new room for players' families that will include a nursery for children.

New offices for the coaching staff will be expanded in the last phase of the overhaul. That work also will include a practice gym backing up to the locker room and a grand entryway to the arena.

\$5K hole-in-one prize in Heinz & Arnold golf fundraiser



A \$5,000 hole-in-one prize will be at stake in this weekend's Heinz & Arnold Fundraising Golf Tournament.

Jess Wabol, one of the coordinators of the tournament, said the fundraiser will be held this Saturday at the Coral Ocean Point course. Check-in time is 6am, while a shotgun starts at 7:30am. Entrance fee is \$80.

The hole-in-one prize is courtesy of Marianas Insurance. The hole will be determined later, but hole-in-one contests are on holes No., 7, 12, and 14. A skills challenge will be held on hole No. 3 with each participant needing to pay \$10 to enter the event.

The one-day event is open to five flights and there will also be prizes for double-peoria winners. Golfers with the best gross score in flights A, B, C, Ladies and Championship will receive \$200 each. In the double peoria, the top placer will get \$300, \$200 for second, and \$100 for third.

Mulligans will be sold at \$5 apiece and each player is allowed to get two.

An awards banquet will be held after the tournament at the COP poolside.

To register or for more information, contact Jess Wabol at 288-1129. (PR)



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Jess Wabol, seen here putting in a local tournament early this year, is expected to be among the participants in this weekend's Heinz & Arnold Fundraising Golf Tournament at Coral Ocean Point.

HEO

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Pool C, forcing a quarterfinal duel against his teammate in the boys' 14-and-under division.

Other semifinalists in the boys' 14-and-under division were New Caledonia's Clement Coarraze, Cook Islands' Ngana Nicholas and Fiji's Khatri. Jones will be pitted against Khatri, while Coarraze will battle Nicholas for the other finals berth.

The girls' 14-and-under division also had an-all CNMI duel with Thea Minor cruising to an easy win via walkover against teammate Melody Johnson.

Johnson won two games in the opening day of the tournament on Monday, but caught a flu on Tuesday, prompting her to call off her match against Fiji's Annie Shannon after the first set.

"It was really unfortunate that Melody lost in the tour-

nament because of a flu. She really prepared hard for this tournament and was in high spirit when she left Saipan. She was even the one leading her teammates to practice when coach Jeff [Race] was still off-island," said Melody's father, Ed, in a telephone interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Ed Johnson added while battling flu, her daughter was still trying to play in the consolation round yesterday.

In the girls' 18-and-under division, the CNMI was left without a bet in the semifinals after Theecel Minor and Jodel Fernandez lost their last game in the pool play on Tuesday.

Fernandez, who split her first two games on Monday, bowed to Solomon Islands' Amanda Korinihona, 0-6, 1-6, and finished only fourth in Pool C.

Theecel Minor was in Pool A and dropped all her three games with the latest one against top seed Marca Tere-Apisah of Pap-

ua New Guinea, 0-6, 0-6.

In the doubles event, Miller and Jones survived a grueling semifinals match against Coarraze and Kiribati's Tebatibunga Tito, 6-4, 5-7, 12-10, to advance to the finals.

Jones and Miller will face American Samoa's Christian Duchnak and Nicholas, who prevailed over Khatri and PNG's Robin Morove, 6-4, 6-1.

In the boys' 18-and-under, Heo teamed up with Lai and also made it to the finals after tripping O'Connel and Lal, 6-2, 7-6 (4). The other finals seat went to the pair of Hargrove and Reddy, who won over Paeni and Jacobe, 6-1, 6-3.

In the girls' 18-under division, Theecel Minor and Fernandez lost in the first round to American Samoa's Angie Roberts and Leilani Duchnak, 4-6, 2-6. With Johnson unable to play, she and Thea Minor gave up a win to Fiji's Ashmita Rajan and Tanya Buttersberger in the first round.

MANGLONA

From Page 28

continue later. I don't think I would ever quit. I never think about quitting fitness and living a healthy lifestyle," he said.

Manglona added that although triathlon is a race, he loves the pace of the sport and how a triathlete trains.

"In triathlon, you depend on yourself, you do it at your own pace. In training, you manage

your own time, while in league sports you work with other people, which is good, but sometimes games are canceled arbitrarily," he said.

Ironman Triathlon

Only over a year after trying out triathlon, Manglona had already made a name for himself, after competing in the 2009 XTERRA Saipan Championships and Tagaman Triathlon early this year.

Next month, he will be representing the CNMI to the

Pacific Mini Games 2009 in Rarotonga, Cook Islands. From Rarotonga, his next journey will bring him to Maui, Hawaii for the 2009 XTERRA World Championships.

In the future, the Tinian triathlete hopes to participate in Ironman Triathlon.

"It's a long-distance triathlon. It consists of a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile bike, and a marathon run, all without a break. It's really tough. You are almost putting your body to its peak. It's

very challenging, like racing to your death, so to speak," Manglona said.

The most famous Ironman Triathlon is held annual in Hawaii, while other countries also host the same event.

Promoting healthy lifestyle

Manglona is one of the most visible Tinian athletes in triathlon tournaments and he wants to keep it that way to encourage more youth from their island to

get into sports.

"I feel proud of being considered as the face of sports on Tinian because it gives me a chance to promote a positive lifestyle. When people see me do it, they feel that they can do it also, with patience, time, and energy," the wildland fire fighter said.

Manglona's growing list of achievements is made possible through his supportive family and friends.

"They are my greatest fans. I would like to thank my mother [Emily] and father [James] for believing in me, and seeing me as a role model to my younger siblings and my older brother, too. I would also like to thank them for being great parents and for taking good care of such a naughty and adventurous boy like me," Manglona said.

For Tinian youth, who are still having second thoughts on getting involved in sports, Manglona also has a message for them.

"It doesn't matter if you're into sports or not. What's important is how much you want to achieve in your life. How badly do you want it? Success is just around the corner. All it takes to get it is time, effort, patience, and the will not to give up, ever. That applies to sports and anything you do in life," Manglona said.

"However, I encouraged young people to get into sports. It's a good way to live a healthy life. It's a good way to have positive energy. You can really find out a lot about yourself in sports. You find out how motivated you are and how patient you are," he added.

SIP

From Page 28

for its first championship behind selected players, who according to coach Joey Siriban were "unknown" before they topped one league early this year and now aiming for another in the UFO caging.

"You may call our players the new kids on the block. People before are asking who are these players and we want to answer that questions through our games," Siriban said.

MDX is bannered by Kae Bernardo and Wowie Abuel and aptly supported by Bon Tamayo, Bart Demapan, and Ivan De Vero. Completing the team are Banjo

Basila, Meljun and Melvin Capalad, Joseph Galulu, Jun Pantaleon, and Pogs Pangilinan.

MDX advanced to the finals after beating Bayani in the semis last week, 94-80. It swept the regular season to take the pennant and is slightly favored against SIP, having stunned the defending champion, 94-85, during the league's opening game in May.

Though they are picked to win against SIP, Siriban said there's no room for complacency, especially in a short series like this. The SIP-MDX title duel is only a best-of-three affair.

"We have high respect for SIP, as it has been dominating the league in the past years. We really want to win against a very tough team like them," Siriban said.

The MDX coach added their chances on winning the series will depend on their defense.

"We have to play good defense against SIP, just like what we did in our first meeting. We have to neutralize their scorers, specifically Elmer Esdreton," Siriban said.

Esdreton scored 16 points against MDX in the regular season, while the rest of his teammates struggled in their first game.

SIP coach Mario Alegre admitted they played bad in the opening game because it was only the first time his players met and played together.

"We do not have the chemistry yet, but as the tournament progressed, we improved,"

Alegre said.

Since losing to MDX, SIP swept its remaining games in the regular season and made it into the finals after thwarting Northern Marianas Bartenders Association in the semis, 98-87.

Defense will also be the focus of SIP's game plan in the title series.

"We gave up too many layups in our first meeting and their shooters also killed us. Definitely we will play better this time," Alegre said.

Game 1 of the SIP-MDX title match will be played tonight 7:30pm.

The title series in the masters division between NMBA-Ebisuya and Cabalen will also start tonight at 6pm.

MP

From Page 28

Complex Field.

MP United, which recorded a draw and two losses in its three previous games before recovering against KFAS, drew a hat trick from Joe Miller to cruise to its third win and move up to fourth spot in the team standings.

Dae Won Jeon added two goals and Peter Prestley had one to complete MP United's easy win.

Miller and Prestley made MP United's first two goals in the eighth and 11th minute, respectively. The National Team member Miller had his second one at the start of the second half, while

Jeon found the back of the net twice in a span of five minutes with his goals in the 60th and 65th minute. Miller completed a hat trick with his goal in the 67th minute.

KFAS scored only in the first half on Chou Song Ho's twin goals (18th and 32nd minute), dropping the team to second to the last place in the team standings.

Inter 3, Korean Juniors 1

In the second game, Inter Godfather's ended Korean Juniors' two-game winning run with a 3-1 triumph.

Peter Houk broke the ice for Inter with a goal in the 30th

minute, but a header from Cho Jin Wook in the 32nd minute tied the game in the first half.

The second half was all Inter Godfather's show with Sunji Nagayasu and Jacob Van Dam making one goal apiece in the 55th and 75th minute, respectively.

The win strengthened Inter Godfather's hold to the top spot, as it improved to a 7-2-0 win-draw-loss record.

Korean Juniors dropped to a 5-1-2 slate, but remained in second place.

Remington 3, Independent 3

In the third game, Remington canned two goals in the second half to force a 3-3 draw against

Independent FC.

Independent enjoyed a 2-1 lead at halftime behind Brant Robinson and Seyong Um's one goal apiece in the 28th and 31st minute, respectively. Thoengaket Jerrephong put Remington in the scoreboard first with his goal in the 22nd minute.

Again, Remington made the first goal in the second half with Kirk Schuler hitting one from the left side in the 51st minute after a foiled header from Matthew Holley to tie the game, 2-all.

Three minutes later Jari Voutilainen gave the lead back to Independent with his first goal in the game, but Holley tied it again, as this time he connected on a goal in 69th minute.



SPORTS BRIEFS

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	75	45	.625	—
Boston	67	51	.568	7
Tampa Bay	64	54	.542	10
Toronto	55	62	.470	18 1/2
Baltimore	48	71	.407	26 1/2

Central Division

Detroit	63	55	.534	—
Chicago	61	59	.508	3
Minnesota	57	62	.479	6 1/2
Cleveland	51	67	.432	12
Kansas City	45	72	.395	16 1/2

West Division

Los Angeles	72	45	.615	—
Texas	67	51	.568	5 1/2
Seattle	61	58	.517	12
Oakland	53	66	.445	20

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	67	49	.578	—
Florida	64	55	.538	4 1/2
Atlanta	62	57	.521	6 1/2
New York	55	64	.471	12 1/2
Washington	43	76	.361	25 1/2

Central Division

St. Louis	68	53	.562	—
Chicago	60	57	.513	6
Milwaukee	58	61	.487	9
Houston	57	62	.479	10

Cincinnati

Pittsburgh

50

68

.424

16 1/2

Cincinnati

Pittsburgh

48

70

.407

18 1/2

West Division

Los Angeles	71	49	.592	—
Colorado	66	53	.555	4 1/2
San Francisco	65	54	.546	5 1/2
Arizona	54	66	.450	17
San Diego	51	70	.421	20 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Boston 10, Toronto 9

Detroit 5, Seattle 3

LA Angels 5, Cleveland 4

Tampa Bay 5, Baltimore 4

Minnesota 9, Texas 6

Kansas City 5, Chi White Sox 4

Philadelphia 5, Arizona 1

Florida 6, Houston 2

Colorado 4, Washington 3

Pittsburgh 5, Milwaukee 2

San Francisco 8, Cincinnati 5

LA Dodgers 5, St. Louis 3

San Diego 6, Chi Cubs 3

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

NMIFA Standings

	W	D	L	Pts.
Inter Godfather's	7	2	0	23
Korean Juniors	5	1	2	16
Remington	3	2	3	11
MP United	3	1	5	10
Independents FC	3	1	4	10
KFAS	3	0	6	9
Matansa FC	2	1	5	7



\$5K hole-in-one prize in Heinz & Arnold golf fundraiser

A \$5,000 hole-in-one prize will be at stake in this weekend's Heinz & Arnold Fundraising Golf Tournament.

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Favre coming back with Vikings

Brett Favre unretired again and will be wearing purple this time. Chew on that, cheeseheads.



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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Heo inches closer to crown in POJC

Jones, Minor advance to semis



Jones



Heo

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Three CNMI junior tennis players soldiered on to the semifinal round of the 2009 Pacific Oceania Junior Championships yesterday at the Goodman Fielder International Regional Tennis Centre in Lautoka, Fiji.

Boys' 18-and-under top seed Ji Hoon Heo continued to live up to expectations after downing Prasund Lal of Fiji in the quarterfinals in straight sets, 6-1, 6-2. Heo, who swept three games in Pool A, will be paired against Guam's Marten Lai in the semifinal game today. Lai booked the second finals seat after topping Fiji's Diva Reddy



in the other quarterfinal match.

The other semis pairing will have the Solomon Islands' Luke Paeni meeting Fiji's Chris Hargrove. Paeni beat Fiji's Tony O'Connell in the quarterfinals, 6-2, 6-3, while Hargrove won over Vanuatu's Gregory Jacobo, 6-0, 6-1.

In the all-CNMI quarterfinals game, Rafael Jones slipped past teammate Christian Miller in three sets, 6-1, 4-6, 6-1.

Miller and Jones, who both swept their first two games, had an early collision after losing their third game on Tuesday. Miller ended up the round-robin play in Pool B with a 2-1 record, but still finished first, winning in the tiebreak. Jones dropped to second place in

See HEO on Page 27

MP United regains form, tops KFAS

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



MP United returned to its winning ways after whipping Korean Football Association of Saipan, 7-2, at the continuation of the second round of the 2009 NMIFA Men's Football League on Sunday at the Oleai Sports

See MP on Page 27



Remington's Matthew Holley, right, goes for a header against the defense of Independent goalie Glenn Smith and Gil Birnrich during their game in the NMIFA men's league on Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Manglona is hooked into triathlon



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Name: Joshua Kelly Alberto Manglona
Age: 21
Sport: Triathlon
Occupation: Wildland Fire Fighter



Joshua Manglona is seen here heading to the finish line in the 2009 Tagaman Triathlon early this year.

JACK HARDY

Once you start, you don't want to stop.

This is how Tinian's Joshua Manglona described his "addiction" to triathlon since getting involved with the sport just last year.

"I was influenced by a triathlete, who represents Tinian in tournaments. He is Ken Halliday, who is originally from Australia. I used to work at the Dynasty [Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino] gym and I would watch Ken come in consistently to do his workouts, swim, and run. I could see that he is disciplined and maintain a healthy lifestyle. I would ask Ken about training and triathlon, and his answers were always interesting and extreme. I was inspired," Manglona said.

"When I did my first triathlon, I met triathletes who told me that it is an addictive sport. I keep going back to triathlon, because I love to challenge my body. I love seeing how much will power I have to keep pushing. I also love seeing other people doing the same thing and smiling while they're doing it. That's what it's all about—having fun," the 21-year-old triathlete said.

The Tinian triathlete said triathlon is both physically and mentally taxing type of sport and it will be understandable if one is tempted to give up, but count him out of the list.

"I don't quit. There are times, though, that I've wanted to take breaks, and

See MANGLONA on Page 27

SIP aims to keep reign vs MDX



By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



The title series in the open division of the 7th United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Basketball League will begin tonight with one team hoping to extend its reign and the other aiming to make a mark on Saipan's local caging scene.

Defending champion Samahang Ilokano at Pangasinense won four of the first six stagings of the UFO caging and is aiming for its fifth title. The Marianas Wireless-backed SIP's last championship was during the 2005 edition of the league when it beat Cabalen in the best-of-three title affair.

Elmer Esdreton, James Villacrusis, Junar Guiab, Edsel Mendoza, and Leo Factor were all part of that 2005 team and will be leading's SIP title defense this year. Also on the team are Badong Camacho, Nate Mateo, Peter Mendiola, Brendon Taliana, Joe Punzalan, Sam Fernandez, Larry Palero, and Alex Lauron.

MDX-Chow Queen will be gunning

See SIP on Page 27

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MDX-Chow Queen's Wowie Abuel drives against SIP's Elmer Esdreton, hidden, during their lone meeting in the regular season of the UFO caging in April at the JP Center Basketball Court.